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MEMORANDUM

To: Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare
From: The Office of Revisor of Statutes
Date: February 10, 2025
Subject: Bill Brief on Senate Bill 126

SB 126 enacts the physician assistant licensure compact to provide interstate practice privileges for physician assistants.

Section 1 states the purpose of the compact, which is to enhance the portability of a license to practice as a physician assistant while safeguarding the safety of patients

Section 2 provides definitions for terms used throughout the compact.

Section 3 sets out the criteria for states to participate in the compact. These include that the member state license PAs, have a mechanism in place to receive and investigate complaints, fully implement criminal background check requirements and utilize passage of a recognized national licensure examination as a requirement for PA licensure.

Section 4 sets out the criteria for PAs to receive a multistate license. These include graduating from an accredited PA program, holding current certifications, having no felony or misdemeanor convictions, and no revocation of a license or restriction on a license due to adverse action.

Section 5 requires a licensee when applying for compact privilege to identify the participating state from which the licensee is applying.

Section 6 permits a participating state to impose adverse action against a licensee in that state.

Section 7 provides for the establishment and operation of the PA licensure compact commission, its composition, powers, and financing.

Section 8 requires the commission to develop and use a coordinated data and reporting system containing license and adverse action information on licensed PAs. A participating state is required to submit a uniform data set to the commission with the information on all PAs in the compact.

Section 9 requires that the commission adopt rules and regulations to implement and administer the provisions of the compact.

Section 10 sets out the rules for oversight, dispute resolution and enforcement of the compact.

Section 11 states that the effective date of the commission is upon passage in the 7th member state. Procedures for a state's withdrawal and amendment of the compact are also provided.

Section 12 contains a severability clause, which gives instructions to a court interpreting the compact if a provision is held unconstitutional.

Section 13 provides that nothing in the compact is to prevent or inhibit the enforcement of any other law or regulation in a participating state.

SB 126 would take effect after its publication in the statute book on July 1, 2025.