

Committee on Public Health

Bill Summary

Bill No. H2490/S1506

Title: *An Act establishing a physical therapy licensure compact*

Sponsor: Representative Adrian C. Madaro/Senator Sal N. DiDomenico

Committee: Public Health

Hearing Date: July 14, 2025

Similar Matters: S1506

Prior History: Refile of H2233 of 2023-24; Referred to Joint Committee on Public Health and reported favorably; Referred to Health Care Financing; Accompanied a study order.

Reporting Deadline: September 12, 2025

Current Law:

- **M.G.L. Chapter 112** pertains to the registration of certain professions and occupations.
- **M.G.L. Chapter 112 § 23I** pertains to the requirements for licensure as a physical therapist.

Summary:

This bill adds a new chapter to the General Laws, Chapter 112A, providing for an interstate licensure compact for physical therapists.

CHAPTER 112A

SECTION 1 sets forth the purposes of the licensure compact.

SECTION 2 contains definitions of terms used in the chapter.

SECTION 3 provides the requirements for a state to participate in the compact, a requirement that member states obtain biometric-based information from each physical therapy licensure applicant for submission to the FBI for a criminal background check, and provides for reciprocity of licensees and payment of fees.

SECTION 4 sets forth the requirements a licensee must meet to exercise the compact privilege under the terms and provisions of the compact.

SECTION 5 provides options for a licensee who is active duty military or is the spouse of an individual who is active duty military to designate a home state.

SECTION 6 governs adverse actions by member states. A home state would have exclusive power to take adverse action against a license issued by the home state. This section contains the authority of a state to take adverse actions, issue subpoenas and conduct investigations, among other things.

SECTION 7 provides for the creation of a joint public agency that would be known as the Physical Therapy Compact Commission. The section sets forth the requirements for commission membership, voting and meetings and specifies the powers and duties of the commission. It also provides for the establishment of an executive board and specifies its powers and duties. The section also includes provisions relative to financing of the commission and liability and indemnification.

SECTION 8 would require the commission to provide for the development, maintenance, and utilization of a coordinated database and reporting system containing licensure, adverse action, and investigative information on all licensed individuals in member states. The section specifies the kinds of information that must be contained in the database.

SECTION 9 sets forth the rule-making authority of the commission and specifies the procedures for establishing commission rules, including notices and hearings.

SECTION 10 governs oversight, dispute resolution and enforcement with respect to member states. The section provides for remedies regarding states that default on obligations under the compact and for termination of membership under certain circumstances.

SECTION 11 provides for the date of implementation of the Interstate Commission for Physical Therapy Practice and associated rules, withdrawal, and amendment. The compact would come into effect on the date on which the compact statute is enacted into law in the tenth member state. Other provisions in section 11 contain rules with respect to withdrawal from the compact.

SECTION 12 contains provisions respecting the construction of the statute and the severability of invalid provisions.