

**Committee on Public Health
Bill Summary**

Bill No.	H2563/S1494
Title:	<i>An Act establishing the dentist and dental hygienist compact</i>
Sponsor:	Representative Bud L. Williams/Senator John J. Cronin
Committee:	Public Health
Hearing Date:	July 14, 2025
Similar Matters:	S1494
Prior History:	New file
Reporting Deadline:	September 12, 2025
Current Law:	None

Summary:

This bill adds a new chapter to the General Laws, Chapter 112B, providing for a licensure compact for dentists and dental hygienists.

CHAPTER 112B

SECTION 1 sets forth the purposes of the licensure compact.

SECTION 2 contains definitions of terms used in the chapter.

SECTION 3 outlines the requirements for a state to participate in the compact, including requirements regarding background checks, examinations and education standards. This section also 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 serve as an instrumentality of the participating states acting jointly. 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 the financing of the commission and liability and indemnification.

SECTION 8 requires 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 implementation of the compact. The compact would come into effect on the date on which the compact statute is enacted into law in the seventh participating state. Other provisions in section 11 contain rules with respect to withdrawal from the compact.

SECTION 12 - 13 contain provisions respecting the construction of the statute and the severability of invalid provisions.