

**Committee on Public Health
Bill Summary**

Bill No.	H2528/S1487
Title:	<i>An Act establishing the psychology interjurisdictional compact</i>
Sponsor:	Representative Lindsay N. Sabadosa/Senator Cynthia Stone Creem
Committee:	Public Health
Hearing Date:	July 14, 2025
Similar Matters:	S1487
Prior History:	Refile of H2986 of 23-24; State Administration and Regulatory Oversight Committee reported favorable; HCF study
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 psychologists to practice telepsychology in other compact states.

CHAPTER 112B

SECTION 1 permits this act to be known and cited as the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact Act.

SECTION 2 authorizes the Governor to execute a compact in the following form with any one or more of the states. This section also indicates the General Assembly's approval and ratification of the compact upon passage.

SECTION 3 sets forth the intentions and purposes of the licensure compact

SECTION 4 contains definitions of terms used in the chapter.

SECTION 5 provides the requirements for a state to participate in the compact, including a requirement that member states obtain biometric-based information from each licensure applicant for submission to the FBI for a criminal background check.

SECTION 6 sets forth the requirements a licensee must meet to exercise the compact privilege under the terms and provisions of the compact.

SECTION 7 sets forth the requirements a licensee must meet to temporarily exercise the compact privilege under the terms and provisions of the compact.

SECTION 8 requires licensees with compact privilege to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology only in the scope of practice assigned by the appropriate State Psychology Regulatory Authority and when both of the following circumstances are met:

- The psychologist initiates a client/patient contact in a home state via telecommunications technologies with a client/patient in a receiving state, and
- Other conditions regarding telepsychology as determined by rules promulgated by the commission.

SECTION 9 governs adverse actions by member states.

SECTION 10 contains the authority of a state to take adverse actions, issue subpoenas and conduct investigations, among other things.

SECTION 11 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 12 provides for the creation of a joint public agency that would be known as the Psychology Interjurisdictional 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 the financing of the commission and liability and indemnification.

SECTION 13 sets forth the rule-making authority of the commission and specifies the procedures for establishing commission rules, including notices and hearings.

SECTION 14 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 15 provides for the date of implementation of the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact Commission 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 seventh member state. Other provisions in section 11 contain rules with respect to withdrawal from the compact.

SECTION 16 contains provisions respecting the construction of the statute and the severability of invalid provisions.

SECTIONS 17-18 clarify that the compact administrator representing Massachusetts is not entitled to additional compensation for carrying out the duties and responsibilities of the compact administrator. The executive director of the board of registration of psychologists or their designee is to be the compact administrator representing Massachusetts.

SECTION 19 permits the board of registration of psychologists to promulgate regulations as necessary to implement the provisions of this chapter.

SECTION 20 permits the board of registration of psychologists to recover the costs of investigation and disposition of cases resulting in any adverse disciplinary action taken against a psychologist's authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology or temporary authorization to practice from a psychologist.

SECTION 21 permits the board of registration of psychologists to take disciplinary action against a psychologist practicing in the commonwealth under the authority to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology or temporary authorization to practice under a license issued by a member state.

SECTION 22 permits the board of registration of psychologists to disclose personally-identifiable information about a psychologist, including social security number, when reporting information to the database overseen by the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact Commission.

SECTION 23 makes this compact subject to all applicable laws and regulations of the commonwealth.