## SENATE BILL NO. 412—SENATORS HECK, TOWNSEND, HARDY, BEERS, CEGAVSKE AND WASHINGTON

#### MARCH 19, 2007

JOINT SPONSORS: ASSEMBLYMEN HARDY, GANSERT AND MABEY

Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

SUMMARY—Makes various changes regarding health care. (BDR 54-540)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No. Effect on the State: No.

EXPLANATION - Matter in **bolded italics** is new; matter between brackets formitted material is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to health care; revising the method of selecting certain professionals for various boards related to health care; creating a new type of license for practicing medicine; changing the requirements for a license by endorsement to practice medicine; providing new requirements for certain nursing instructors; enacting the Nurse Licensure Compact; requiring the State Board of Nursing to pass regulations required for implementation of the Nurse Licensure Compact; providing two new types of licenses for osteopathic medicine; providing a new type of license as a dispensing optician; providing in statute for the election of officers for the State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

#### **Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

Existing law provides methods of selecting certain persons for various boards related to health care. (NRS 630.060, 630A.110, 631.130, 632.030, 633.191, 634.020, 634A.040, 635.020, 636.035, 637.030, 637A.035, 637B.100, 639.030, 640.030, 640A.080, 640B.170, 640B.180, 640C.150, 641.040, 641A.100, 641B.100 and 641C.150) **Sections 1, 4, 7, 8, 11, 22-26, 29-32, 35, 37, 39, 40 and 42-45** of this bill create new requirements for selecting such persons if they are members of the profession being regulated by a board. One of those requirements is that an





applicable professional association provide a list of candidates to the Governor for vacant positions on such boards.

Existing law provides certain special types of licenses that the Board of Medical Examiners may issue. (NRS 630.258-630.265) **Section 3** of this bill provides a new type of license for a foreign expert physician.

Existing law provides for certain persons to receive a license by endorsement to practice medicine. (NRS 630.1605) **Section 6** of this bill revises the requirements for such a license.

Existing law provides certain requirements and the procedures for creating requirements for schools and courses of professional nursing. (NRS 632.430-632.470) **Section 10** of this bill provides various requirements for nursing instructors in clinical practice, pharmacology, and ethics or law.

Existing law provides requirements for licensing and certification related to the practice of nursing. (NRS 632.300-632.345) **Section 12** of this bill enacts the Nurse Licensure Compact, which allows for multistate licensure privileges for nurses in states which are parties to the compact. **Section 13** of this bill requires the State Board of Nursing to adopt any regulations necessary for the implementation of the Nurse Licensure Compact.

Existing law provides various requirements regarding the handling of information related to certain conditions, limitations or restrictions placed on a license or certificate related to the practice of nursing. (NRS 632.307) **Section 16** of this bill clarifies compliance with the information requirements of the Nurse Licensure Compact.

Existing law provides exemptions to the requirement that nursing must be practiced in connection with a valid state license. (NRS 632.340) **Section 17** of this bill adds the multistate licensure privilege granted pursuant to the Nurse Licensure Compact to those exemptions.

Existing law provides confidentiality requirements related to investigations by the State Board of Nursing. (NRS 632.405) **Section 18** of this bill clarifies that such confidentiality requirements do not affect the information requirements of the Nurse Licensure Compact.

Existing law provides certain types of special licenses that the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine may issue. (NRS 633.401-633.411) **Section 20** of this bill provides a new type of license for a foreign expert osteopathic physician. **Section 21** of this bill provides a new type of license by endorsement to practice osteopathic medicine.

Existing law provides requirements for the licensing of dispensing opticians. (NRS 637.090-637.140) **Section 28** of this bill provides a new type of license for a person with an out-of-state license as a dispensing optician.

Existing law provides for the creation of the State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners. (NRS 640.030) **Section 36** of this bill provides for the election of officers for that Board.

**Section 46** of this bill repeals NRS 632.450 which requires that the minimum length for a course of instruction in nursing is 2 years.

## THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

**Section 1.** Chapter 629 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. If the Governor must appoint to a board a person who is a member of a profession being regulated by that board, the



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Governor must select that person from a list provided by the applicable professional association if:

- (a) The list is provided to the Governor within 30 days after an applicable position on the board becomes vacant or at least 30 days before the beginning of the first term for the vacant position; and
- (b) The list contains three persons for each applicable vacant position on the board, and each such person meets the requirements to fill the position on the board.
- 2. If the applicable professional association does not provide the list pursuant to subsection 1, the Governor may appoint any person who is a member of the applicable profession and who meets the requirements for the vacant position.
- 3. A person who is a member of an applicable profession may not simultaneously serve as a member of a board and as an officer of the applicable professional association which submits the list pursuant to subsection 1. If such a person is chosen by the Governor pursuant to either subsection 1 or 2, the person may not serve on the board while still an officer of the applicable professional association, but may serve while only a member of the applicable professional association.
  - 4. As used in this section:
- 23 (a) "Applicable professional association" means an 24 association which:
  - (1) Represents the members of a profession being regulated by a particular board:
  - (2) Is open to all qualified members of that profession in this State; and
  - (3) Is a statewide chapter of the most prominent national association for that profession or, if such a prominent national association does not exist, is the most prominent statewide association for that profession.
  - (b) "Board" refers to a board created pursuant to chapters 630, 630A, 631, 632, 633, 634, 634A, 635, 636, 637, 637A, 637B, 639, 640, 640A, 640B, 640C, 641, 641A, 641B or 641C.
  - Sec. 2. Chapter 630 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 3 and 4 of this act.
  - Sec. 3. 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 630.161, the Board may issue a restricted license to a person who:
    - (a) Is a graduate of a foreign medical school;
  - (b) Teaches, researches or practices medicine outside the **United States**;
    - (c) Is a recognized medical expert; and
- 44 (d) Intends to teach, research or practice clinical medicine at a medical facility or medical school in this State.



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2. Such a person must:

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(a) Submit to the Board any documentation and other proof of qualifications required by the Board; and

(b) Meet all of the statutory requirements for licensure to practice medicine in effect at the time of application except for the requirements set forth in NRS 630.160.

- 3. If a person who holds a restricted license issued pursuant to this section ceases to teach, research or practice clinical medicine in this State at the medical facility or medical school where he is employed:
- (a) The medical facility or medical school, as applicable, shall notify the Board; and

(b) Upon receipt of such notification, the restricted license expires automatically.

- 4. The Board may renew or modify a restricted license issued pursuant to this section, unless the restricted license has expired automatically or has been revoked.
- 5. The provisions of this section do not limit the authority of the Board to issue a restricted license to an applicant in accordance with any other provision of this chapter.
- **Sec. 4.** A member of the Board described pursuant to subsection 1 of NRS 630.060 must be selected pursuant to section 1 of this act in addition to any other requirements of this chapter.
  - **Sec. 5.** NRS 630.160 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 630.160 1. Every person desiring to practice medicine must, before beginning to practice, procure from the Board a license authorizing him to practice.
- 2. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 630.1605, 630.161 and 630.258 to 630.265, inclusive, *and section 3 of this act*, a license may be issued to any person who:
- (a) Is a citizen of the United States or is lawfully entitled to remain and work in the United States;
- (b) Has received the degree of doctor of medicine from a medical school:
  - (1) Approved by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education of the American Medical Association and Association of American Medical Colleges; or
  - (2) Which provides a course of professional instruction equivalent to that provided in medical schools in the United States approved by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education;
  - (c) Is currently certified by a specialty board of the American Board of Medical Specialties and who agrees to maintain such certification for the duration of his licensure, or has passed:
- (1) All parts of the examination given by the National Board of Medical Examiners:





- (2) All parts of the Federation Licensing Examination;
- (3) All parts of the United States Medical Licensing Examination;
- (4) All parts of a licensing examination given by any state or territory of the United States, if the applicant is certified by a specialty board of the American Board of Medical Specialties;
- (5) All parts of the examination to become a licentiate of the Medical Council of Canada; or
- (6) Any combination of the examinations specified in subparagraphs (1), (2) and (3) that the Board determines to be sufficient:
- (d) Is currently certified by a specialty board of the American Board of Medical Specialties in the specialty of emergency medicine, preventive medicine or family practice and who agrees to maintain certification in at least one of these specialties for the duration of his licensure, or:
  - (1) Has completed 36 months of progressive postgraduate:
- (I) Education as a resident in the United States or Canada in a program approved by the Board, the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education or the Coordinating Council of Medical Education of the Canadian Medical Association; or
- (II) Fellowship training in the United States or Canada approved by the Board or the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education; or
- (2) Has completed at least 36 months of postgraduate education, not less than 24 months of such postgraduate education must be as a resident after receiving a medical degree from a combined dental and medical degree program approved by the Board; and
- (e) Passes a written or oral examination, or both, as to his qualifications to practice medicine and provides the Board with a description of the clinical program completed demonstrating that the applicant's clinical training met the requirements of paragraph (b).
  - **Sec. 6.** NRS 630.1605 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 630.1605 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 630.161, the Board [may] shall issue a license by endorsement to practice medicine to an applicant who has been issued a license to practice medicine by the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States if:
- [1.] (a) At the time the applicant files his application with the Board, the license is in effect [;
- 2. The applicant:
- (a) Submits to the Board proof of passage of an examination approved by the Board;





- 1 (b) Submits to the Board any documentation and other proof of qualifications required by the Board;
  - (c) Meets all of the statutory requirements for licensure to practice medicine in effect at the time of application except for the requirements set forth in NRS 630.160; and
  - (d) Completes any additional requirements relating to the fitness of the applicant to practice required by the Board; and
  - 3. Any documentation and other proof of qualifications required by the Board is authenticated in a manner approved by the Board.] and unrestricted; and
    - (b) The applicant:

- (1) Is currently certified by a specialty board of the American Board of Medical Specialties; and
- (2) Has had no adverse actions reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank within the past 10 years.
- 2. A license by endorsement may be issued at a meeting of the Board or between its meetings by its President and Secretary subject to approval at the next meeting of the Board.
- **Sec. 7.** Chapter 630A of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

A member of the Board described pursuant to subsection 1 of NRS 630A.110 must be selected pursuant to section 1 of this act in addition to any other requirements of this chapter.

**Sec. 8.** Chapter 631 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

A member of the Board described pursuant to paragraph (a) or (c) of subsection 1 of NRS 631.130 must be selected pursuant to section 1 of this act in addition to any other requirements of this chapter.

- **Sec. 9.** Chapter 632 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 10 to 13, inclusive, of this act.
- Sec. 10. An accredited or approved school of nursing, practical nursing or professional nursing may:
- 1. Hire as an instructor for clinical practice a person who holds a bachelor's degree in nursing and has at least 2 years of nursing experience in patient care.
- 38 2. Hire as an instructor for pharmacology a person who 39 holds a doctorate in pharmacology from a school of pharmacology 40 accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting association.
  - 3. Hire as an instructor in ethics or law a physician, registered nurse or osteopathic physician who is medically licensed in this State and who holds a degree from a school of law accredited by the American Bar Association.





- 4. As used in this section, "instructor for clinical practice" means a registered nurse whose primary role is educating prelicensure nursing students in a skills laboratory or practice site.
- Sec. 11. A member of the Board described pursuant to paragraph (a), (b) or (c) of subsection 1 of NRS 632.030 must be selected pursuant to section 1 of this act in addition to any other requirements of this chapter.
- Sec. 12. The Nurse Licensure Compact is hereby ratified, enacted into law and entered into with all jurisdictions legally joining in the Compact, in substantially the form set forth in this section:

#### Nurse Licensure Compact

## ARTICLE I. Findings and Declaration of Purpose

(a) The party states find that:

- 19 (1) The health and safety of the public are affected by the 20 degree of compliance with and the effectiveness of enforcement 21 activities related to state nurse licensure laws.
  - (2) Violations of nurse licensure and other laws regulating the practice of nursing may result in injury or harm to the public.
  - (3) The expanded mobility of nurses and the use of advanced communication technologies as part of our nation's health care delivery system require greater coordination and cooperation among states in the areas of nurse licensure and regulation.
  - (4) New practice modalities and technology make compliance with individual state nurse licensure laws difficult and complex.
  - (5) The current system of duplicative licensure for nurses practicing in multiple states is cumbersome and redundant to both nurses and states.
    - (b) The general purposes of this Compact are to:
  - (1) Facilitate the states' responsibility to protect the public's health and safety.
  - (2) Ensure and encourage the cooperation of party states in the areas of nurse licensure and regulation.
  - (3) Facilitate the exchange of information between party states in the areas of nurse regulation, investigation and adverse actions.
  - (4) Promote compliance with the laws governing the practice of nursing in each jurisdiction.





(5) Invest all party states with the authority to hold a nurse accountable for meeting all state practice laws in the state in which the patient is located at the time care is rendered through the mutual recognition of party state licenses.

## ARTICLE II. Definitions

 As used in this Compact:

- (a) "Adverse action" means a home or remote state action.
- (b) "Alternative program" means a voluntary, nondisciplinary monitoring program approved by a nurse licensing board.
- (c) "Coordinated licensure information system" means an integrated process for collecting, storing and sharing information on nurse licensure and enforcement activities related to nurse licensure laws, which is administered by a nonprofit organization composed of and controlled by state nurse licensing boards.
  - (d) "Current significant investigative information" means:
- (1) Investigative information that a licensing board, after a preliminary inquiry that includes notification and an opportunity for the nurse to respond if required by state law, has reason to believe is not groundless and, if proved true, would indicate more than a minor infraction; or
- (2) Investigative information that indicates that the nurse represents an immediate threat to public health and safety regardless of whether the nurse has been notified and had an opportunity to respond.
- (e) "Home state" means the party state which is the nurse's primary state of residence.
- (f) "Home state action" means any administrative, civil, equitable or criminal action permitted by the home state's laws which are imposed on a nurse by the home state's licensing board or other authority including actions against an individual's license such as revocation, suspension, probation or any other action which affects a nurse's authorization to practice.
- (g) "Licensing board" means a party state's regulatory body responsible for issuing nurse licenses.
- (h) "Multistate licensure privilege" means current, official authority from a remote state permitting the practice of nursing as either a registered nurse or a licensed practical vocational nurse in such party state. All party states have the authority, in accordance with existing state due process law, to take actions against the nurse's privilege such as revocation, suspension, probation or any other action which affects a nurse's authorization to practice.





- (i) "Nurse" means a registered nurse or licensed practical vocational nurse, as those terms are defined by each party's state practice laws.
- (j) "Party state" means any state that has adopted this Compact.
- $(\hat{k})$  "Remote state" means a party state, other than the home state, where the patient is located at the time nursing care is provided or, in the case of the practice of nursing not involving a patient, in such party state where the recipient of nursing practice is located.
- (1) "Remote state action" means any administrative, civil, equitable or criminal action permitted by a remote state's laws which are imposed on a nurse by the remote state's licensing board or other authority including actions against an individual's multistate licensure privilege to practice in the remote state, and cease and desist and other injunctive or equitable orders issued by remote states or the licensing boards thereof.
- (m) "State" means a state, territory or possession of the United States, and the District of Columbia.
- (n) "State practice laws" means those individual party's state laws and regulations that govern the practice of nursing, define the scope of nursing practice, and create the methods and grounds for imposing discipline. The term does not include the initial qualifications for licensure or requirements necessary to obtain and retain a license, except for qualifications or requirements of the home state.

#### ARTICLE III. General Provisions and Jurisdiction

- (a) A license to practice registered nursing issued by a home state to a resident in that state will be recognized by each party state as authorizing a multistate licensure privilege to practice as a registered nurse in such party state. A license to practice licensed practical vocational nursing issued by a home state to a resident in that state will be recognized by each party state as authorizing a multistate licensure privilege to practice as a licensed practical vocational nurse in such party state. In order to obtain or retain a license, an applicant must meet the home state's qualifications for licensure and license renewal as well as all other applicable state laws.
- (b) Party states may, in accordance with state due process laws, limit or revoke the multistate licensure privilege of any nurse to practice in their state and may take any other actions under their applicable state laws necessary to protect the health and safety of their citizens. If a party state takes such action, it shall



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promptly notify the administrator of the coordinated licensure information system. The administrator of the coordinated licensure information system shall promptly notify the home state of any such actions by remote states.

- (c) Every nurse practicing in a party state must comply with the state practice laws of the state in which the patient is located at the time care is rendered. In addition, the practice of nursing is not limited to patient care, but shall include all nursing practice as defined by the state practice laws of a party state. The practice of nursing will subject a nurse to the jurisdiction of the nurse licensing board and the courts, as well as the laws, in that party state.
- (d) This Compact does not affect additional requirements imposed by states for advanced practice registered nursing. However, a multistate licensure privilege to practice registered nursing granted by a party state shall be recognized by other party states as a license to practice registered nursing if one is required by state law as a precondition for qualifying for advanced practice registered nurse authorization.
- (e) Individuals not residing in a party state shall continue to be able to apply for nurse licensure as provided for under the laws of each party state. However, the license granted to these individuals will not be recognized as granting the privilege to practice nursing in any other party state unless explicitly agreed to by that party state.

## ARTICLE IV. Applications for Licensure in a Party State

- (a) Upon application for a license, the licensing board in a party state shall ascertain, through the coordinated licensure information system, whether the applicant has ever held, or is the holder of, a license issued by any other state, whether there are any restrictions on the multistate licensure privilege and whether any other adverse action by any state has been taken against the license.
- (b) A nurse in a party state shall hold licensure in only one party state at a time, issued by the home state.
- (c) A nurse who intends to change primary state of residence may apply for licensure in the new home state in advance of such change. However, new licenses will not be issued by a party state until after a nurse provides evidence of change in primary state of residence satisfactory to the new home state's licensing board.
  - (d) When a nurse changes primary state of residence by:





- (1) Moving between two party states, and obtains a license from the new home state, the license from the former home state is no longer valid.
- (2) Moving from a nonparty state to a party state, and obtains a license from the new home state, the individual state license issued by the nonparty state is not affected and will remain in full force if so provided by the laws of the nonparty state.
- (3) Moving from a party state to a nonparty state, the license issued by the prior home state converts to an individual state license, valid only in the former home state, without the multistate licensure privilege to practice in other party states.

#### ARTICLE V. Adverse Actions

In addition to the General Provisions described in Article III, the following provisions apply:

- (a) The licensing board of a remote state shall promptly report to the administrator of the coordinated licensure information system any remote state actions, including the factual and legal basis for such action, if known. The licensing board of a remote state shall also promptly report any significant current investigative information yet to result in a remote state action. The administrator of the coordinated licensure information system shall promptly notify the home state of any such reports.
- (b) The licensing board of a party state shall have the authority to complete any pending investigations for a nurse who changes primary state of residence during the course of such investigations. It shall also have the authority to take appropriate action(s), and shall promptly report the conclusions of such investigations to the administrator of the coordinated licensure information system. The administrator of the coordinated licensure information system shall promptly notify the new home state of any such actions.
- (c) A remote state may take adverse action affecting the multistate licensure privilege to practice within that party state. However, only the home state shall have the power to impose adverse action against the license issued by the home state.
- (d) For purposes of imposing adverse action, the licensing board of the home state shall give the same priority and effect to reported conduct received from a remote state as it would if such conduct had occurred within the home state. In so doing, it shall apply its own state laws to determine appropriate action.
- (e) The home state may take adverse action based on the factual findings of the remote state, so long as each state follows its own procedures for imposing such adverse action.





(f) Nothing in this Compact shall override a party state's decision that participation in an alternative program may be used in lieu of licensure action and that such participation shall remain nonpublic if required by the party state's laws. Party states must require nurses who enter any alternative programs to agree not to practice in any other party state during the term of the alternative program without prior authorization from such other party state.

# ARTICLE VI. Additional Authorities Invested in Party State Nurse Licensing Boards

Notwithstanding any other powers, party state nurse licensing boards shall have the authority to:

(a) If otherwise permitted by state law, recover from the affected nurse the costs of investigations and disposition of cases resulting from any adverse action taken against that nurse.

- (b) Issue subpoenas for both hearings and investigations which require the attendance and testimony of witnesses, and the production of evidence. Subpoenas issued by a nurse licensing board in a party state for the attendance and testimony of witnesses, and/or the production of evidence from another party state, shall be enforced in the latter state by any court of competent jurisdiction, according to the practice and procedure of that court applicable to subpoenas issued in proceedings pending before it. The issuing authority shall pay any witness fees, travel expenses, mileage and other fees required by the service statutes of the state where the witnesses and/or evidence are located.
- (c) Issue cease and desist orders to limit or revoke a nurse's authority to practice in their state.
- (d) Promulgate uniform rules and regulations as provided for in Article VIII(c).

## ARTICLE VII. Coordinated Licensure Information System

- (a) All party states shall participate in a cooperative effort to create a coordinated database of all licensed registered nurses and licensed practical vocational nurses. This system will include information on the licensure and disciplinary history of each nurse, as contributed by party states, to assist in the coordination of nurse licensure and enforcement efforts.
- (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all party states' licensing boards shall promptly report adverse actions, actions against multistate licensure privileges, any current significant investigative information yet to result in adverse action,





denials of applications, and the reasons for such denials, to the coordinated licensure information system.

(c) Current significant investigative information shall be transmitted through the coordinated licensure information system

only to party state licensing boards.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all party states' licensing boards contributing information to the coordinated licensure information system may designate information that may not be shared with nonparty states or disclosed to other entities or individuals without the express permission of the contributing state.

(e) Any personally identifiable information obtained by a party state's licensing board from the coordinated licensure information system may not be shared with nonparty states or disclosed to other entities or individuals except to the extent permitted by the

laws of the party state contributing the information.

(f) Any information contributed to the coordinated licensure information system that is subsequently required to be expunged by the laws of the party state contributing that information shall also be expunged from the coordinated licensure information system.

(g) The Compact administrators, acting jointly with each other and in consultation with the administrator of the coordinated licensure information system, shall formulate necessary and proper procedures for the identification, collection and exchange of information under this Compact.

# ARTICLE VIII. Compact Administration and Interchange of Information

(a) The head of the nurse licensing board, or his designee, of each party state shall be the administrator of this Compact for his state.

(b) The Compact administrator of each party state shall furnish to the Compact administrator of each other party state any information and documents, including, but not limited to, a uniform data set of investigations, identifying information, licensure data and disclosable alternative program participation information to facilitate the administration of this Compact.

(c) Compact administrators shall have the authority to develop uniform rules to facilitate and coordinate implementation of this Compact. These uniform rules shall be adopted by party states,

under the authority invested under Article VI(d).





### ARTICLE IX. Immunity

No party state or the officers or employees or agents of a party state's nurse licensing board who acts in accordance with the provisions of this Compact shall be liable on account of any act or omission in good faith while engaged in the performance of their duties under this Compact. Good faith in this Article shall not include willful misconduct, gross negligence or recklessness.

### ARTICLE X. Entry into Force, Withdrawal and Amendment

(a) This Compact shall enter into force and become effective as to any state when it has been enacted into the laws of that state. Any party state may withdraw from this Compact by enacting a statute repealing the same, but no such withdrawal shall take effect until 6 months after the withdrawing state has given notice of the withdrawal to the executive heads of all other party states.

(b) No withdrawal shall affect the validity or applicability by the licensing boards of states remaining party to the Compact of any report of adverse action occurring prior to the withdrawal.

(c) Nothing contained in this Compact shall be construed to invalidate or prevent any nurse licensure agreement or other cooperative arrangement between a party state and a nonparty state that is made in accordance with the other provisions of this Compact.

(d) This Compact may be amended by the party states. No amendment to this Compact shall become effective and binding upon the party states unless and until it is enacted into the laws of all party states.

## ARTICLE XI. Construction and Severability

(a) This Compact shall be liberally construed so as to effectuate the purposes thereof. The provisions of this Compact shall be severable and if any phrase, clause, sentence or provision of this Compact is declared to be contrary to the constitution of any party state or of the United States or the applicability thereof to any government, agency, person or circumstance is held invalid, the validity of the remainder of this Compact and the applicability thereof to any government, agency, person or circumstance shall not be affected thereby. If this Compact shall be held contrary to the constitution of any state party thereto, the Compact shall remain in full force and effect as to the remaining party states and in full force and effect as to the party state affected as to all severable matters.





- (b) In the event party states find a need for settling disputes arising under this Compact:
- (1) The party states may submit the issues in dispute to an arbitration panel which will be comprised of an individual appointed by the Compact administrator in the home state, an individual appointed by the Compact administrator in the remote state(s) involved and an individual mutually agreed upon by the Compact administrators of all the party states involved in the dispute.
- 10 (2) The decision of a majority of the arbitrators shall be 11 final and binding.
  - Sec. 13. The Board shall adopt any regulations necessary for the implementation of the Nurse Licensure Compact enacted pursuant to section 12 of this act, including, without limitation, any regulations which interpret any parts of the interstate compact that require interpretation and which are necessary for its implementation.
    - **Sec. 14.** NRS 632.0126 is hereby amended to read as follows:
  - 632.0126 "Approved school of nursing" means a school of nursing that is approved by the Board as meeting the standards for nursing education established by the Board pursuant to NRS 632.430 to 632.470, inclusive [...], and section 10 of this act.
    - **Sec. 15.** NRS 632.030 is hereby amended to read as follows: 632.030 1. The Governor shall appoint:
  - (a) Three registered nurses who are graduates of an accredited school of nursing, are licensed as professional nurses in the State of Nevada and have been actively engaged in nursing for at least 5 years preceding the appointment.
  - (b) One practical nurse who is a graduate of an accredited school of practical nursing, is licensed as a practical nurse in this State and has been actively engaged in nursing for at least 5 years preceding the appointment.
  - (c) One nursing assistant who is certified pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.
  - (d) One member who represents the interests of persons or agencies that regularly provide health care to patients who are indigent, uninsured or unable to afford health care. This member may be licensed under the provisions of this chapter.
  - (e) One member who is a representative of the general public. This member must not be:
  - (1) A licensed practical nurse, a registered nurse, a nursing assistant or an advanced practitioner of nursing; or
  - (2) The spouse or the parent or child, by blood, marriage or adoption, of a licensed practical nurse, a registered nurse, a nursing assistant or an advanced practitioner of nursing.





- 2. Each member of the Board must be:
- (a) A citizen of the United States; and
- (b) A resident of the State of Nevada who has resided in this State for not less than 2 years.
  - 3. A representative of the general public may not:
- (a) Have a fiduciary obligation to a hospital or other health agency;
- (b) Have a material financial interest in the rendering of health services; or
- (c) Be employed in the administration of health activities or the performance of health services.
- 4. The members appointed to the Board pursuant to paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection 1 must be selected to provide the broadest representation of the various activities, responsibilities and types of service within the practice of nursing and related areas, which may include, without limitation, experience:
  - (a) In administration.
  - (b) In education.

- (c) As an advanced practitioner of nursing.
- (d) In an agency or clinic whose primary purpose is to provide medical assistance to persons of low and moderate incomes.
  - (e) In a licensed medical facility.
  - 5. Each member of the Board shall serve a term of 4 years. If a vacancy occurs during a member's term, the Governor shall appoint a person qualified under this **[section]** *chapter* to replace that member for the remainder of the unexpired term.
  - 6. No member of the Board may serve more than two consecutive terms. For the purposes of this subsection, service of 2 or more years in filling an unexpired term constitutes a term.
    - **Sec. 16.** NRS 632.307 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 632.307 1. The Board may place any condition, limitation or restriction on any license or certificate issued pursuant to this chapter if the Board determines that such action is necessary to protect the public health, safety or welfare.
- 2. [The] Except as otherwise provided by the Nurse Licensure Compact enacted pursuant to section 12 of this act, the Board shall not report any condition, limitation or restriction placed on a license or certificate issued pursuant to this section to the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Disciplinary Data Bank or any other repository which records disciplinary action taken against licensees or holders of certificates, unless the licensee or holder of the certificate fails to comply with the condition, limitation or restriction placed on the license or certificate. The Board may, upon request, report any such information to an agency of another state which regulates the practice of nursing.





- 3. The Board may modify any condition, limitation or restriction placed on a license or certificate issued pursuant to this section if the Board determines it is necessary to protect the public health, safety or welfare.
- 4. Any condition, limitation or restriction placed on a license or certificate issued pursuant to this section shall not be deemed to be disciplinary action taken pursuant to NRS 632.325.
  - **Sec. 17.** NRS 632.340 is hereby amended to read as follows:

632.340 The provisions of NRS 632.315 do not prohibit:

- 1. Gratuitous nursing by friends or by members of the family of a patient.
- 2. The incidental care of the sick by domestic servants or persons primarily employed as housekeepers as long as they do not practice nursing within the meaning of this chapter.
  - 3. Nursing assistance in the case of an emergency.
- 4. The practice of nursing by students enrolled in accredited schools of nursing or by graduates of those schools or courses pending the results of the first licensing examination scheduled by the Board following graduation. A student or graduate may not work as a nursing assistant unless he is certified to practice as a nursing assistant pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.
- 5. The practice of nursing in this State by any legally qualified nurse or nursing assistant of another state whose engagement requires him to accompany and care for a patient temporarily residing in this State during the period of one such engagement, not to exceed 6 months, if the person does not represent or hold himself out as a nurse licensed to practice in this State or as a nursing assistant who holds a certificate to practice in this State.
- 6. The practice of any legally qualified nurse of another state who is employed by the United States Government, or any bureau, division or agency thereof, while in the discharge of his official duties in this State.
- 7. Nonmedical nursing for the care of the sick, with or without compensation, if done by the adherents of, or in connection with, the practice of the religious tenets of any well-recognized church or religious denomination, if that nursing does not amount to the practice of practical or professional nursing as defined in NRS 632.017 and 632.018, respectively.
- 8. A personal assistant from performing services for a person with a disability pursuant to NRS 629.091.
- 9. A natural person from providing supported living arrangement services if:
- (a) That person has been issued a certificate pursuant to NRS 435.3305 to 435.339, inclusive, and the regulations adopted pursuant to NRS 435.3305 to 435.339, inclusive; or



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- (b) That person is employed or retained as an independent contractor by a partnership, firm, corporation or association, state or local government or agency thereof that has been issued a certificate pursuant to NRS 435.3305 to 435.339, inclusive, and the regulations adopted pursuant to NRS 435.3305 to 435.339, inclusive.
- As used in this subsection, "supported living arrangement services" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 435.3315.
- 10. The practice of nursing pursuant to the Nurse Licensure Compact enacted pursuant to section 12 of this act.
  - **Sec. 18.** NRS 632.405 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 632.405 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, any records or information obtained during the course of an investigation by the Board and any record of the investigation are confidential.
- 2. The complaint or other document filed by the Board to initiate disciplinary action and all documents and information considered by the Board when determining whether to impose disciplinary action are public records.
- 3. This section does not prevent or prohibit the Board from communicating or cooperating with another licensing Board or any agency that is investigating a licensee, including a law enforcement agency.
- 4. This section does not prevent or prohibit the Board from acting pursuant to the Nurse Licensure Compact enacted pursuant to section 12 of this act.
- **Sec. 19.** Chapter 633 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 20, 21 and 22 of this act.
  - Sec. 20. 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 633.315, the Board may issue a special license to a person who:
- (a) Is a graduate of a foreign school which teaches osteopathic medicine;
- (b) Teaches, researches or practices osteopathic medicine outside the United States;
  - (c) Is a recognized expert in osteopathic medicine; and
- (d) Intends to teach, research or practice clinical osteopathic medicine at a medical facility or school of osteopathic medicine in this State.
  - 2. Such a person must:
- (a) Submit to the Board any documentation and other proof of qualifications required by the Board; and
- (b) Meet all of the statutory requirements for licensure to practice osteopathic medicine in effect at the time of application except for the requirements set forth in NRS 633.315.
- 3. If a person who holds a special license issued pursuant to this section ceases to teach, research or practice clinical





osteopathic medicine in this State at the medical facility or school of osteopathic medicine where he is employed:

(a) The medical facility or school of osteopathic medicine, as

applicable, shall notify the Board; and

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- (b) Upon receipt of such notification, the special license expires automatically.
- 4. The Board may renew or modify a special license issued pursuant to this section, unless the special license has expired automatically or has been revoked.
- The provisions of this section do not limit the authority of the Board to issue a special license to an applicant in accordance with any other provision of this chapter.

6. As used in this section, "medical facility" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 449.0151.

Sec. 21. 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 633.315, 16 the Board may issue a license by endorsement to a person who has been issued a license to practice osteopathic medicine by the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States if:

(a) At the time the person files his application with the Board, the license is in effect and unrestricted; and

(b) The applicant:

- (1) Is currently certified by both a specialty board of the American Board of Medical Specialties and a specialty board of the American Osteopathic Association; and
  - (2) Has had no adverse actions reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank within the past 10 years.
  - 2. Any person applying for a license pursuant to this section shall pay in advance to the Board the application and initial license fee specified in this chapter.
- 3. A license by endorsement may be issued at a meeting of the 31 32 Board or between its meetings by its President and Secretary 33 subject to approval at the next meeting of the Board.
- Sec. 22. A member of the Board described pursuant to 34 35 subsection 1 of NRS 633.191 must be selected pursuant to section 1 of this act in addition to any other requirements of this chapter. 36
  - Sec. 23. Chapter 634 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

A member of the Board described pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 2 of NRS 634.020 must be selected pursuant to section 1 of this act in addition to any other requirements of this chapter.





**Sec. 24.** Chapter 634A of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

A member of the Board described pursuant to subsection 1 of NRS 634A.040 must be selected pursuant to section 1 of this act in addition to any other requirements of this chapter.

**Sec. 25.** Chapter 635 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

A member of the Board described pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 2 of NRS 635.020 must be selected pursuant to section 1 of this act in addition to any other requirements of this chapter.

**Sec. 26.** Chapter 636 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

A member of the Board described pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 636.035 must be selected pursuant to section 1 of this act in addition to any other requirements of this chapter.

**Sec. 27.** Chapter 637 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 28 and 29 of this act.

Sec. 28. 1. The Board shall issue a special license as a dispensing optician to an applicant who:

- (a) Is at least 18 years of age;
- (b) Is of good moral character;
- (c) Is a citizen of the United States or is lawfully entitled to remain and work in the United States;
  - (d) Is a graduate of an accredited high school or its equivalent;
  - (e) Has passed the National Opticianry Competency Examination of the American Board of Opticianry;
    - (f) Is currently certified by the American Board of Opticianry;
  - (g) Has passed the Contact Lens Registry Examination of the National Contact Lens Examiners;
- 31 (h) Is currently certified by the National Contact Lens 32 Examiners;
  - (i) Has passed an examination, if one exists, which is based solely on the provisions of this chapter and chapter 637 of NAC and is administered by the Board; and
    - (j) Has either:
    - (1) An active license as a dispensing optician issued by the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States; or
    - (2) Not less than 5 years of experience as a dispensing optician.
    - 2. A person practicing ophthalmic dispensing pursuant to a special license as provided in this section is subject to the provisions of this chapter in the same manner as a person practicing ophthalmic dispensing pursuant to a license issued



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pursuant to NRS 637.120, including, without limitation, the provisions of this chapter governing the renewal, inactivity or reactivation of a license.

Sec. 29. A member of the Board described pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 2 of NRS 637.030 must be selected pursuant to section 1 of this act in addition to any other requirements of this chapter.

**Sec. 30.** Chapter 637A of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

A member of the Board described pursuant to paragraph (c) of subsection 1 of NRS 637A.035 must be selected pursuant to section 1 of this act in addition to any other requirements of this chapter.

**Sec. 31.** Chapter 637B of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

A member of the Board described pursuant to paragraph (a) or (b) of subsection 2 of NRS 637B.100 must be selected pursuant to section 1 of this act in addition to any other requirements of this chapter.

**Sec. 32.** Chapter 639 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

A member of the Board described pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 639.030 must be selected pursuant to section 1 of this act in addition to any other requirements of this chapter.

**Sec. 33.** NRS 639.030 is hereby amended to read as follows: 639.030 1. The Governor shall appoint:

(a) Six members who are registered pharmacists in the State of Nevada, are actively engaged in the practice of pharmacy in the State of Nevada and have had at least 5 years' experience as registered pharmacists preceding the appointment.

(b) One member who is a representative of the general public and is not related to a pharmacist registered in the State of Nevada by consanguinity or affinity within the third degree.

2. Appointments of registered pharmacists must be representative of the practice of pharmacy.

- 3. Within 30 days after his appointment, each member of the Board shall take and subscribe an oath to discharge faithfully and impartially the duties prescribed by this chapter.
- 4. After the initial terms, the members of the Board must be appointed to terms of 3 years. A person may not serve as a member of the Board for more than three consecutive terms. If a vacancy occurs during a member's term, the Governor shall appoint a person qualified under this [section] chapter to replace that member for the remainder of the unexpired term.





- 5. The Governor shall remove from the Board any member, after a hearing, for neglect of duty or other just cause.
- **Sec. 34.** Chapter 640 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 35 and 36 of this act.
- Sec. 35. A member of the Board described pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 2 of NRS 640.030 must be selected pursuant to section 1 of this act in addition to any other requirements of this chapter.
- Sec. 36. The Board shall elect a Chairman and other officers from among its members.
- **Sec. 37.** Chapter 640A of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

A member of the Board described pursuant to paragraph (b) or (c) of subsection 2 of NRS 640A.080 must be selected pursuant to section 1 of this act in addition to any other requirements of this chapter.

- **Sec. 38.** NRS 640A.080 is hereby amended to read as follows: 640A.080 1. The Board of Occupational Therapy, consisting of five members appointed by the Governor, is hereby created.
  - 2. The Governor shall appoint to the Board:
- (a) One member who is a representative of the general public. This member must not be:
- (1) An occupational therapist or an occupational therapy assistant; or
- (2) The spouse or the parent or child, by blood, marriage or adoption, of an occupational therapist or an occupational therapy assistant.
- (b) One member who is an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant.
  - (c) Three members who are occupational therapists.
- 3. Each member of the Board must be a resident of Nevada. An occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant appointed to the Board must:
- (a) Have practiced, taught or conducted research in occupational therapy for the 5 years immediately preceding his appointment; and
- (b) Except for the initial members, hold a license issued pursuant to this chapter.
- 4. No member of the Board may serve more than two consecutive terms.
- 5. If a vacancy occurs during a member's term, the Governor shall appoint a person qualified under this **[section]** *chapter* to replace that member for the remainder of the unexpired term.
- Sec. 39. NRS 640B.180 is hereby amended to read as follows: 640B.180 [1. For the appointment of any member to the Board pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 2 of NRS 640B.170.





the Nevada Athletic Trainers Association, or its successor organization, shall, at least 30 days before the beginning of a term of a member of the Board, or within 30 days after a position on the Board becomes vacant, submit to the Governor the names of not less than three persons or more than five persons who are qualified for membership on the Board for each such position. The Governor shall appoint new members or fill a vacancy from the list, or request a new list.

- 2. For the appointment of a member to the Board pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 2 of NRS 640B.170, the Nevada Physical Therapists Association, or its successor organization, and the Nevada Athletic Trainers Association, or its successor organization, shall, at least 30 days before the beginning of a term of a member of the Board, or within 30 days after a position on the Board becomes vacant, jointly prepare and submit to the Governor a list of the names of not less than three persons or more than five persons who are qualified for membership on the Board for that position. The Governor shall appoint a new member or fill a vacancy from the list, or request a new list.
- 3. If the Nevada Athletic Trainers Association or the Nevada Physical Therapists Association, or the successor of any such organization, fails to submit nominations for a position on the Board within the periods prescribed in this section, the Governor may appoint any qualified person.] A member of the Board described pursuant to paragraph (a) or (b) of subsection 2 of NRS 640B.170 must be selected pursuant to section 1 of this act in addition to any other requirements of this chapter.
- **Sec. 40.** Chapter 640C of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

A member of the Board described pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 2 of NRS 640C.150 must be selected pursuant to section 1 of this act in addition to any other requirements of this chapter.

- Sec. 41. NRS 640C.150 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 640C.150 1. The Board of Massage Therapists is hereby created. The Board consists of seven members appointed pursuant to this **[section]** *chapter* and one nonvoting advisory member appointed pursuant to NRS 640C.160.
- 2. The Governor shall appoint to the Board seven members as follows:
  - (a) Six members who:
  - (1) Are licensed to practice massage therapy in this State;
- (2) Have engaged in the practice of massage therapy for the 2 years immediately preceding their appointment.



and



- → Of the six members appointed pursuant to this paragraph, three members must be residents of Clark County, two members must be residents of Washoe County and one member must be a resident of a county other than Clark County or Washoe County.
- (b) One member who is a member of the general public. This member must not be:
  - (1) A massage therapist; or

- (2) The spouse or the parent or child, by blood, marriage or adoption, of a massage therapist.
- 3. [The Governor may, in making his appointments to the Board pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 2, consider for appointment to the Board a person recommended to him by any person or group.
- —4.] The members who are appointed to the Board pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 2 must continue to practice massage therapy in this State while they are members of the Board.
- [5.] 4. After the initial terms, the term of each member of the Board is 4 years. A member may continue in office until the appointment of a successor.
- [6.] 5. A member of the Board may not serve more than two consecutive terms. A former member of the Board is eligible for reappointment to the Board if that person has not served on the Board during the 4 years immediately preceding the reappointment.
- [7.] 6. A vacancy must be filled by appointment for the unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment.
- [8.] 7. The Governor may remove any member of the Board for incompetence, neglect of duty, moral turpitude or misfeasance, malfeasance or nonfeasance in office.
- **Sec. 42.** Chapter 641 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:
- A member of the Board described pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 641.040 must be selected pursuant to section 1 of this act in addition to any other requirements of this chapter.
- **Sec. 43.** Chapter 641A of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:
- A member of the Board described pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 641A.100 must be selected pursuant to section 1 of this act in addition to any other requirements of this chapter.
- **Sec. 44.** Chapter 641B of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:
- A member of the Board described pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 641B.100 must be selected pursuant to section 1 of this act in addition to any other requirements of this chapter.





**Sec. 45.** Chapter 641C of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

A member of the Board described pursuant to paragraph (a), (b) or (c) of subsection 2 of NRS 641C.150 must be selected pursuant to section 1 of this act in addition to any other requirements of this chapter.

- Sec. 46. NRS 632.450 is hereby repealed.
- **Sec. 47.** This act becomes effective:

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- 1. Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of sections 12 and 13 of this act; and
  - 2. On October 1, 2007, for all other purposes.

#### TEXT OF REPEALED SECTION

**632.450** Schools of professional nursing: Minimum length of course of instruction. Any institution desiring to conduct a school of professional nursing in this State shall submit evidence to the Board that it is prepared to give a course of instruction of not less than 2 years.





