SENATE No.

The Commonwea	Ith of Massachusetts
PRESE	ENTED BY:
Mr.	. McGee
To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives Court assembled:	of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General
The undersigned legislators and/or citizens resp	pectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:
An Act establishing the in	aterstate compact for juveniles.
PETI	TION OF:
NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Mr. McGee	Third Essex and Middlesex

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION SEE SENATE, NO. S00089 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the	Year	Two	Thousand	and	Nine

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE INTERSTATE COMPACT FOR JUVENILES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 1 **SECTION 1.** Chapter 687 of the Acts of 1955 is herby repealed.
- 2 **SECTION 2.** The governor is hereby authorized and directed to execute a compact on behalf of
- 3 this commonwealth with any other state or states legally joined therein in the form substantially
- 4 set out in Section 3 of this act.
- 5 **SECTION 3.** The General Laws are hereby amended by inserting after Chapter 120 the
- 6 following new chapter:

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Chapter 120A - Interstate Compact on Juveniles

- 8 Section 1. Purpose. The compacting states to this Interstate Compact recognize that each state is
- 9 responsible for the proper supervision or return of juveniles, delinquents and status offenders
- who are on probation or parole and who have absconded, escaped or run away from supervision

and control and in so doing have endangered their own safety and the safety of others. The compacting states also recognize that each state is responsible for the safe return of juveniles who have run away from home and in doing so have left their state of residence. The compacting states also recognize that Congress, by enacting the Crime Control Act, 4 U.S.C. Section 112 (1965), has authorized and encouraged compacts for cooperative efforts and mutual assistance in the prevention of crime. It is the purpose of this compact, through means of joint and cooperative action among the compacting states to: (A) ensure that the adjudicated juveniles and status offenders subject to this compact are provided adequate supervision and services in the receiving state as ordered by the adjudicating judge or parole authority in the sending state; (B) ensure that the public safety interests of the citizens, including the victims of juvenile offenders, in both the sending and receiving states are adequately protected; (C) return juveniles who have run away, absconded or escaped from supervision or control or have been accused of an offense to the state requesting their return; (D) make contracts for the cooperative institutionalization in public facilities in member states for delinquent youth needing special services; (E) provide for the effective tracking and supervision of juveniles; (F) equitably allocate the costs, benefits and obligations of the compacting states; (G) establish procedures to manage the movement between states of juvenile offenders released to the community under the jurisdiction of courts, juvenile departments, or any other criminal or juvenile justice agency which has jurisdiction over juvenile offenders; (H) insure immediate notice to jurisdictions where defined offenders are authorized to travel or to relocate across state lines; (I) establish procedures to resolve pending charges (detainers) against juvenile offenders prior to transfer or release to the community under the terms of this compact; (J) establish a system of uniform data collection on information pertaining

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to juveniles subject to this compact that allows access by authorized juvenile justice and criminal justice officials, and regular reporting of compact activities to heads of state executive, judicial, and legislative branches and juvenile and criminal justice administrators; (K) monitor compliance with rules governing interstate movement of juveniles and initiate interventions to address and correct non-compliance; (L) coordinate training and education regarding the regulation of interstate movement of juveniles for officials involved in such activity; and (M) coordinate the implementation and operation of the compact with the Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children, the Interstate Compact for Adult Offender Supervision and other compacts affecting juveniles particularly in those cases where concurrent or overlapping supervision issues arise. It is the policy of the compacting states that the activities conducted by the Interstate Commission created herein are the formation of public policies and therefore are public business. Furthermore, the compacting states shall cooperate and observe their individual and collective duties and responsibilities for the prompt return and acceptance of juveniles subject to the provisions of this compact. The provisions of this compact shall be reasonably and liberally construed to accomplish the purposes and policies of the compact. Section 2. Definitions. As used in sections 1 to 20 inclusive, unless the context clearly requires a different construction, the following words shall have the following meanings:-"By –laws", those by-laws established by the Interstate Commission for its governance, or for directing or controlling its actions or conduct. "Compact Administrator", the individual in each compacting state appointed pursuant to the terms of this compact, responsible for the administration and management of the state's supervision and transfer of juveniles subject to the terms of this compact, the rules adopted by the Interstate Commission and policies adopted by the State Council under this compact.

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- 57 "Compacting State", any state which has enacted the enabling legislation for this compact.
- 58 "Commissioner", the voting representative of each compacting state appointed pursuant to
- section 3 of this compact.
- "Court", any court having jurisdiction over delinquent, neglected, or dependent children.
- 61 "Deputy Compact Administrator", the individual, if any, in each compacting state appointed to
- 62 act on behalf of a Compact Administrator pursuant to the terms of this compact responsible for
- the administration and management of the state's supervision and transfer of juveniles subject to
- the terms of this compact, the rules adopted by the Interstate Commission and policies adopted
- by the State Council under this compact.
- 66 "Interstate Commission", the Interstate Commission for Juveniles created by section 3 of this
- 67 compact.
- 68 "Juvenile", any person defined as a juvenile in any member state or by the rules of the Interstate
- 69 Commission, including:
- 70 (1) "Accused Delinquent", a person charged with an offense that, if committed by an adult,
- vould be a criminal offense;
- 72 (2) "Adjudicated Delinquent", a person found to have committed an offense that, if
- 73 committed by an adult, would be a criminal offense;
- 74 (3) "Accused Status Offender", a person charged with an offense that would not be a
- 75 criminal offense if committed by an adult;
- 76 (4) "Adjudicated Status Offender", a person found to have committed an offense that would
- 77 not be a criminal offense if committed by an adult; and
- 78 (5) "Non-Offender", a person in need of supervision who has not been
- 79 accused or adjudicated a status offender or delinquent.

- 80 "Non-Compacting state", any state which has not enacted the enabling legislation for this
- 81 compact.
- 82 "Probation or Parole", any kind of supervision or conditional release of juveniles authorized
- under the laws of the compacting states.
- "Rule", a written statement by the Interstate Commission promulgated pursuant to section 4 of
- 85 this compact that is of general applicability, implements, interprets or prescribes a policy or
- 86 provision of the compact, or an organizational, procedural, or practice requirement of the
- 87 Commission, and has the force and effect of statutory law in a compacting state, and includes the
- amendment, repeal, or suspension of an existing rule.
- "State", a state of the United States, the District of Columbia (or its designee), the
- 90 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the
- 91 Northern Marianas Islands.
- 92 Section 3. The Compact Commission.
- 93 (a) The compacting states hereby create the "Interstate Commission for Juveniles." The
- ommission shall be a body corporate and joint agency of the compacting states. The
- 95 commission shall have all the responsibilities, powers and duties set forth herein, and such
- additional powers as may be conferred upon it by subsequent action of the respective legislatures
- of the compacting states in accordance with the terms of this compact.
- 98 (b) The Interstate Commission shall consist of commissioners appointed by the appropriate
- 99 appointing authority in each state pursuant to the rules and requirements of each compacting
- state and in consultation with the State Council for Interstate Juvenile Supervision created
- hereunder. The commissioner shall be the compact administrator, deputy compact administrator
- or designee from that state who shall serve on the Interstate Commission in such capacity under

or pursuant to the applicable law of the compacting state.

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(c) In addition to the commissioners who are the voting representatives of each state, the Interstate Commission shall include individuals who are not commissioners, but who are members of interested organizations. Such non-commissioner members must include a member of the national organizations of governors, legislators, state chief justices, attorneys general, Interstate Compact for Adult Offender Supervision, Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children, juvenile justice and juvenile corrections officials, and crime victims. All noncommissioner members of the Interstate Commission shall be ex-officio (non-voting) members. The Interstate Commission may provide in its by-laws for such additional ex-officio (non-voting) members, including members of other national organizations, in such numbers as shall be determined by the commission. (d) Each compacting state represented at any meeting of the commission is entitled to one vote. A majority of the compacting states shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, unless a larger quorum is required by the by-laws of the Interstate Commission. (e) The commission shall meet at least once each calendar year. The chairperson may call additional meetings and, upon the request of a simple majority of the compacting states, shall call additional meetings. Public notice shall be given of all meetings and meetings shall be open to the public. (f) The Interstate Commission shall establish an executive committee, which shall include commission officers, members, and others as determined by the by-laws. The executive committee shall have the power to act on behalf of the Interstate Commission during periods when the Interstate Commission is not in session, with the exception of rulemaking and/or

amendment to the compact. The executive committee shall oversee the day-to-day activities of

the administration of the compact managed by an executive director and Interstate Commission staff; administers enforcement and compliance with the provisions of the compact, its by-laws and rules, and performs such other duties as directed by the Interstate Commission or set forth in the by-laws.

- (g) Each member of the Interstate Commission shall have the right and power to cast a vote to which that compacting state is entitled and to participate in the business and affairs of the Interstate Commission. A member shall vote in person and shall not delegate a vote to another compacting state. However, a commissioner, in consultation with the state council, shall appoint another authorized representative, in the absence of the commissioner from that state, to cast a vote on behalf of the compacting state at a specified meeting. The by-laws may provide for members' participation in meetings by telephone or other means of telecommunication or electronic communication.
- (h) The Interstate Commission's by-laws shall establish conditions and procedures under which the Interstate Commission shall make its information and official records available to the public for inspection or copying. The Interstate Commission may exempt from disclosure any information or official records to the extent they would adversely affect personal privacy rights or proprietary interests.
- (i) Public notice shall be given of all meetings and all meetings shall be open to the public, except as set forth in the Rules or as otherwise provided in the compact. The Interstate

 Commission and any of its committees may close a meeting to the public where it determines by two-thirds vote that an open meeting would be likely to:
- 147 1) Relate solely to the Interstate Commission's internal personnel practices and procedures;
- 148 2) Disclose matters specifically exempted from disclosure by statute;

- Disclose trade secrets or commercial or financial information which is privileged or
- 150 confidential;
- 151 4) Involve accusing any person of a crime, or formally censuring any person;
- 152 5) Disclose information of a personal nature where disclosure would constitute a clearly
- unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- 154 6) Disclose investigative records compiled for law enforcement purposes;
- Disclose information contained in or related to examination, operating or condition reports
- prepared by, or on behalf of or for the use of, the Interstate Commission with respect to a
- regulated person or entity for the purpose of regulation or supervision of such person or entity;
- 158 8) Disclose information, the premature disclosure of which would significantly endanger the
- stability of a regulated person or entity; or
- Specifically relate to the Interstate Commission's issuance of a subpoena, or its
- participation in a civil action or other legal proceeding.
- 162 (j) For every meeting closed pursuant to this provision, the Interstate Commission's legal counsel
- shall publicly certify that, in the legal counsel's opinion, the meeting may be closed to the public,
- and shall reference each relevant exemptive provision. The Interstate Commission shall keep
- minutes which shall fully and clearly describe all matters discussed in any meeting and shall
- provide a full and accurate summary of any actions taken, and the reasons therefore, including a
- description of each of the views expressed on any item and the record of any roll call vote
- 168 (reflected in the vote of each member on the question). All documents considered in connection
- with any action shall be identified in such minutes.
- 170 (k) The Interstate Commission shall collect standardized data concerning the interstate
- movement of juveniles as directed through its rules which shall specify the data to be collected,

- the means of collection and data exchange and reporting requirements. Such methods of data
- 173 collection, exchange and reporting shall insofar as is reasonably possible conform to up-to-date
- technology and coordinate its information functions with the appropriate repository of records.
- Section 4. The Powers and Duties of the Interstate Commission. The commission shall have the
- following powers and duties:
- 177 1) To provide for dispute resolution among compacting states.
- 178 2) To promulgate rules to effect the purposes and obligations as enumerated in this compact,
- which shall have the force and effect of statutory law and shall be binding in the compacting
- states to the extent and in the manner provided in this compact.
- To oversee, supervise and coordinate the interstate movement of juveniles subject to the
- terms of this compact and any by-laws adopted and rules promulgated by the Interstate
- 183 Commission.
- 184 4) To enforce compliance with the compact provisions, the rules promulgated by the
- Interstate Commission, and the by-laws, using all necessary and proper means, including but not
- limited to the use of judicial process.
- 187 5) To establish and maintain offices which shall be located within one or more of the
- 188 compacting states.
- 189 6) To purchase and maintain insurance and bonds.
- 190 7) To borrow, accept, hire or contract for services of personnel.
- 191 8) To establish and appoint committees and hire staff which it deems necessary for the
- 192 carrying out of its functions including, but not limited to, an executive committee as required by
- section 3 which shall have the power to act on behalf of the Interstate Commission in carrying
- out its powers and duties hereunder.

- 195 9) To elect or appoint such officers, attorneys, employees, agents, or consultants, and to fix
- their compensation, define their duties and determine their qualifications; and to establish the
- 197 Interstate Commission's personnel policies and programs relating to, inter alia, conflicts of
- interest, rates of compensation, and qualifications of personnel.
- 199 10) To accept any and all donations and grants of money, equipment, supplies, materials, and
- services, and to receive, utilize, and dispose of it.
- 201 11) To lease, purchase, accept contributions or donations of, or otherwise to own, hold, improve
- or use any property, real, personal, or mixed.
- 203 12) To sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange, abandon, or otherwise dispose of any
- 204 property, real, personal or mixed.
- 205 13) To establish a budget and make expenditures and levy dues as provided in Article VIII of
- this compact.
- 207 14) To sue and be sued.
- 208 15) To adopt a seal and by-laws governing the management and operation of the Interstate
- 209 Commission.
- 210 16) To perform such functions as may be necessary or appropriate to achieve the purposes of
- 211 this compact.
- 212 17) To report annually to the legislatures, governors, judiciary, and state councils of the
- 213 compacting states concerning the activities of the Interstate Commission during the preceding
- year. Such reports shall also include any recommendations that may have been adopted by the
- 215 Interstate Commission.
- 216 18) To coordinate education, training and public awareness regarding the interstate movement of
- 217 juveniles for officials involved in such activity.

- 218 19) To establish uniform standards of the reporting, collecting and exchanging of data.
- 219 20) The Interstate Commission shall maintain its corporate books and records in accordance
- with the By-laws.
- Section 5. By-Laws of the Interstate Commission
- The Interstate Commission shall, by a majority of the members present and voting, within twelve
- 223 months after the first Interstate Commission meeting, adopt by-laws to govern its conduct as may
- be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of the compact, including, but not limited
- 225 to:
- 226 1) Establishing the fiscal year of the Interstate Commission;
- 227 2) Establishing an executive committee and such other committees as may be necessary;
- 228 3) Provide for the establishment of committees governing any general or specific delegation
- of any authority or function of the Interstate Commission;
- 230 4) Providing reasonable procedures for calling and conducting meetings of the Interstate
- Commission, and ensuring reasonable notice of each such meeting;
- 232 5) Establishing the titles and responsibilities of the officers of the Interstate Commission;
- 233 6) Providing a mechanism for concluding the operations of the Interstate Commission and the
- return of any surplus funds that may exist upon the termination of the compact after the payment
- and/or reserving of all of its debts and obligations.
- Providing "start-up" rules for initial administration of the compact; and
- 237 8) Establishing standards and procedures for compliance and technical assistance in carrying
- out the compact.
- 239 Section 6. Officers and Staff of the Interstate Commission
- 240 (a) The Interstate Commission shall, by a majority of the members, elect annually from among

its members a chairperson and a vice chairperson, each of whom shall have such authority and duties as may be specified in the by-laws. The chairperson or, in the chairperson's absence or disability, the vice-chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the Interstate Commission. The officers so elected shall serve without compensation or remuneration from the Interstate Commission; provided that, subject to the availability of budgeted funds, the officers shall be reimbursed for any ordinary and necessary costs and expenses incurred by them in the performance of their duties and responsibilities as officers of the Interstate Commission. (b) The Interstate Commission shall, through its executive committee, appoint or retain an executive director for such period, upon such terms and conditions and for such compensation as the Interstate Commission may deem appropriate. The executive director shall serve as secretary to the Interstate Commission, but shall not be a Member and shall hire and supervise such other staff as may be authorized by the Interstate Commission. Section 7. Qualified Immunity, Defense and Indemnification. (a) The Commission's executive director and employees shall be immune from suit and liability, either personally or in their official capacity, for any claim for damage to or loss of property or personal injury or other civil liability caused or arising out of or relating to any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred, or that such person had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities; provided, that any such person shall not be protected from suit or liability for any damage, loss, injury, or liability caused by the intentional or willful and wanton misconduct of any such person. (b) The liability of any commissioner, or the employee or agent of a commissioner, acting within

the scope of such person's employment or duties for acts, errors, or omissions occurring within

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such person's state may not exceed the limits of liability set forth under the Constitution and laws of that state for state officials, employees, and agents. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to protect any such person from suit or liability for any damage, loss, injury, or liability caused by the intentional or willful and wanton misconduct of any such person. (c) The Interstate Commission shall defend the executive director or the employees or representatives of the Interstate Commission and, subject to the approval of the Attorney General of the state represented by any commissioner of a compacting state, shall defend such commissioner or the commissioner's representatives or employees in any civil action seeking to impose liability arising out of any actual or alleged act, error or omission that occurred within the scope of Interstate Commission employment, duties or responsibilities, or that the defendant had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of Interstate Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, provided that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from intentional or willful and wanton misconduct on the part of such person. (d) The Interstate Commission shall indemnify and hold the commissioner of a compacting state, or the commissioner's representatives or employees, or the Interstate Commission's representatives or employees, harmless in the amount of any settlement or judgment obtained against such persons arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of Interstate Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that such persons had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of Interstate Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, provided that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from intentional or willful and wanton misconduct on the part of such persons. Section 8. Rulemaking Function of the Interstate Commission.

(a) The Interstate Commission shall promulgate and publish rules in order to effectively and

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- 287 efficiently achieve the purposes of the compact.
- rules adopted pursuant thereto. Such rulemaking shall substantially conform to the principles of
 the "Model State Administrative Procedures Act," 1981 Act, Uniform Laws Annotated, Vol. 15,
 p.1 (2000), or such other administrative procedures act, as the Interstate Commission deems
 appropriate consistent with due process requirements under the U.S. Constitution as now or

(b) Rulemaking shall occur pursuant to the criteria set forth in this article and the by-laws and

- 293 hereafter interpreted by the U. S. Supreme Court. All rules and amendments shall become
- binding as of the date specified, as published with the final version of the rule as approved by the
- 295 Commission.

- 296 (c) When promulgating a rule, the Interstate Commission shall, at a minimum:
- 297 1) publish the proposed rule's entire text stating the reason(s) for that proposed rule;
- 298 2) allow and invite any and all persons to submit written data, facts, opinions and arguments,
- which information shall be added to the record, and be made publicly available;
- 300 3) provide an opportunity for an informal hearing if petitioned by ten (10) or more persons;
- 301 and
- promulgate a final rule and its effective date, if appropriate, based on input from state or
- 303 local officials, or interested parties.
- 304 (d) Allow, not later than sixty days after a rule is promulgated, any interested person to file a
- petition in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia or in the Federal District
- 306 Court where the Interstate Commission's principal office is located for judicial review of such
- 307 rule. If the court finds that the Interstate Commission's action is not supported by substantial
- 308 evidence in the rulemaking record, the court shall hold the rule unlawful and set it aside. For
- 309 purposes of this subsection, evidence is substantial if it would be considered substantial evidence

- under the Model State Administrative Procedures Act.
- 311 (e) If a majority of the legislatures of the compacting states rejects a rule, those states may, by
- enactment of a statute or resolution in the same manner used to adopt the compact, cause that
- such rule shall have no further force and effect in any compacting state.
- 314 (f) The existing rules governing the operation of the Interstate Compact on Juveniles superceded
- by this act shall be null and void twelve (12) months after the first meeting of the Interstate
- 316 Commission created hereunder.

- 317 (g) Upon determination by the Interstate Commission that a state-of-emergency exists, it may
- 318 promulgate an emergency rule which shall become effective immediately upon adoption,
- provided that the usual rulemaking procedures provided hereunder shall be retroactively applied
- to said rule as soon as reasonably possible, but no later than ninety (90) days after the effective
- 321 date of the emergency rule.
- 322 Section 9. Oversight and Enforcement by the Interstate Commission.
- 323 (a) The Interstate Commission shall oversee the administration and operations of the interstate
- movement of juveniles subject to this compact in the compacting states and shall monitor such
- activities being administered in non-compacting states which may significantly affect
- 326 compacting states.
- 327 (b) The courts and executive agencies in each compacting state shall enforce this compact and
- shall take all actions necessary and appropriate to effectuate the compact's purposes and intent.
- 329 The provisions of this compact and the rules promulgated hereunder shall be received by all the
- judges, public officers, commissions, and departments of the state government as evidence of the
- authorized statute and administrative rules. All courts shall take judicial notice of the compact
- and the rules. In any judicial or administrative proceeding in a compacting state pertaining to the

subject matter of this compact which may affect the powers, responsibilities or actions of the 333 Interstate Commission, it shall be entitled to receive all service of process in any such 334 335 proceeding, and shall have standing to intervene in the proceeding for all purposes. Section 10. Dispute Resolution by the Interstate Commission. 336 (a) The compacting states shall report to the Interstate Commission on all issues and activities 337 338 necessary for the administration of the compact as well as issues and activities pertaining to compliance with the provisions of the compact and its bylaws and rules. 339 340 (b) The Interstate Commission shall attempt, upon the request of a compacting state, to resolve 341 any disputes or other issues which are subject to the compact and which may arise among compacting states and between compacting and non-compacting states. The commission shall 342 promulgate a rule providing for both mediation and binding dispute resolution for disputes 343 among the compacting states. 344 (c) The Interstate Commission, in the reasonable exercise of its discretion, shall enforce the 345 provisions and rules of this compact using any or all means set forth in section 16 of this 346 347 compact. Section 11. Finance of the Interstate Commission 348 349 (a) The Interstate Commission shall pay or provide for the payment of the reasonable expenses 350 of its establishment, organization and ongoing activities. (b) The Interstate Commission shall levy on and collect an annual assessment from each 351 352 compacting state to cover the cost of the internal operations and activities of the Interstate Commission and its staff which must be in a total amount sufficient to cover the Interstate 353 354 Commission's annual budget as approved each year. The aggregate annual assessment amount 355 shall be allocated based upon a formula to be determined by the Interstate Commission, taking

into consideration the population of each compacting state and the volume of interstate movement of juveniles in each compacting state and shall promulgate a rule binding upon all compacting states which governs said assessment. (c) The Interstate Commission shall not incur any obligations of any kind prior to securing the funds adequate to meet the same; nor shall the Interstate Commission pledge the credit of any of the compacting states, except by and with the authority of the compacting state. (d) The Interstate Commission shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of the Interstate Commission shall be subject to the audit and accounting procedures established under its by-laws. However, all receipts and disbursements of funds handled by the Interstate Commission shall be audited yearly by a certified or licensed public accountant and the report of the audit shall be included in and become part of the annual report of the Interstate Commission. Section 12. The State Council. Each member state shall create a State Council for Interstate Juvenile Supervision. While each state may determine the membership of its own state council, its membership must include at least one representative from the legislative, judicial, and executive branches of government, victims groups, and the compact administrator, deputy compact administrator or designee. Each compacting state retains the right to determine the qualifications of the compact administrator or deputy compact administrator. Each state council will advise and may exercise oversight and advocacy concerning that state's participation in Interstate Commission activities and other duties as may be determined by that state, including but not limited to, development of policy concerning operations and procedures of the compact within that state.

Section 13. Compacting States, Effective Date and Amendment.

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- 379 (a) Any state, the District of Columbia (or its designee), the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the
- 380 U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Northern Marianas Islands as defined in
- section 2 of this compact is eligible to become a compacting state.
- 382 (b) The compact shall become effective and binding upon legislative enactment of the compact
- into law by no less than 35 of the states. The initial effective date shall be the later of July 1,
- 384 2004 or upon enactment into law by the 35th jurisdiction. Thereafter it shall become effective
- and binding as to any other compacting state upon enactment of the compact into law by that
- state. The governors of non-member states or their designees shall be invited to participate in the
- activities of the Interstate Commission on a non-voting basis prior to adoption of the compact by
- 388 all states and territories of the United States.
- 389 (c) The Interstate Commission may propose amendments to the compact for enactment by the
- 390 compacting states. No amendment shall become effective and binding upon the Interstate
- 391 Commission and the compacting states unless and until it is enacted into law by unanimous
- 392 consent of the compacting states.
- 393 Section 14. Withdrawal.
- 394 (a) Once effective, the compact shall continue in force and remain binding upon each and every
- compacting state; provided that a compacting state may withdraw from the compact by
- specifically repealing the statute which enacted the compact into law.
- 397 (b) The effective date of withdrawal is the effective date of the repeal.
- 398 (c) The withdrawing state shall immediately notify the chairperson of the Interstate Commission
- in writing upon the introduction of legislation repealing this compact in the withdrawing state.
- 400 The Interstate Commission shall notify the other compacting states of the withdrawing state's
- intent to withdraw within sixty days of its receipt thereof.

- The withdrawing state is responsible for all assessments, obligations and liabilities incurred through the effective date of withdrawal, including any obligations, the performance of which extend beyond the effective date of withdrawal.
- 405 2) Reinstatement following withdrawal of any compacting state shall occur upon the
 406 withdrawing state reenacting the compact or upon such later date as determined by the Interstate
 407 Commission.
- 408 Section 15. Technical Assistance, Fines, Suspension, Termination and Default.
- (a) If the Interstate Commission determines that any compacting state has at any time defaulted
 in the performance of any of its obligations or responsibilities under this compact, or the by-laws
 or duly promulgated rules, the Interstate Commission may impose any or all of the following
 penalties:
- 1) Remedial training and technical assistance as directed by the Interstate Commission;
- 414 2) Alternative Dispute Resolution;
- Fines, fees, and costs in such amounts as are deemed to be reasonable as fixed by the
- 416 Interstate Commission; and
- 4) Suspension or termination of membership in the compact, which shall be imposed only 417 418 after all other reasonable means of securing compliance under the by-laws and rules have been exhausted and the Interstate Commission has therefore determined that the offending state is in 419 default. Immediate notice of suspension shall be given by the Interstate Commission to the 420 421 Governor, the Chief Justice or the Chief Judicial Officer of the state, the majority and minority leaders of the defaulting state's legislature, and the state council. The grounds for default 422 423 include, but are not limited to, failure of a compacting state to perform such obligations or 424 responsibilities imposed upon it by this compact, the by-laws, or duly promulgated rules and any

other grounds designated in commission by-laws and rules. The Interstate Commission shall immediately notify the defaulting state in writing of the penalty imposed by the Interstate Commission and of the default pending a cure of the default. The commission shall stipulate the conditions and the time period within which the defaulting state must cure its default. If the defaulting state fails to cure the default within the time period specified by the commission, the defaulting state shall be terminated from the compact upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the compacting states and all rights, privileges and benefits conferred by this compact shall be terminated from the effective date of termination. (b) Within sixty days of the effective date of termination of a defaulting state, the Commission shall notify the Governor, the Chief Justice or Chief Judicial Officer, the Majority and Minority Leaders of the defaulting state's legislature, and the state council of such termination. (c) The defaulting state is responsible for all assessments, obligations and liabilities incurred through the effective date of termination including any obligations, the performance of which extends beyond the effective date of termination. (d) The Interstate Commission shall not bear any costs relating to the defaulting state unless otherwise mutually agreed upon in writing between the Interstate Commission and the defaulting state. (e) Reinstatement following termination of any compacting state requires both a reenactment of the compact by the defaulting state and the approval of the Interstate Commission pursuant to the rules. Section 16. Judicial Enforcement. The Interstate Commission may, by majority vote of the members, initiate legal action in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia or, at the discretion of the Interstate Commission, in the federal district where the Interstate

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- Commission has its offices, to enforce compliance with the provisions of the compact, its duly
- promulgated rules and by-laws, against any compacting state in default. In the event judicial
- enforcement is necessary the prevailing party shall be awarded all costs of such litigation
- including reasonable attorneys fees.
- 452 Section 17. Dissolution of the Compact
- 453 (a) The compact dissolves effective upon the date of the withdrawal or default of the compacting
- state, which reduces membership in the compact to one compacting state.
- (b) Upon the dissolution of this compact, the compact becomes null and void and shall be of no
- 456 further force or effect, and the business and affairs of the Interstate Commission shall be
- concluded and any surplus funds shall be distributed in accordance with the by-laws.
- 458 Section 18. Severability and Construction.
- 459 (a) The provisions of this compact shall be severable, and if any phrase, clause, sentence or
- 460 provision is deemed unenforceable, the remaining provisions of the compact shall be
- 461 enforceable.
- (b) The provisions of this compact shall be liberally construed to effectuate its purposes.
- 463 Section 19. Effect of Compact on Other Laws.
- (a) Nothing herein prevents the enforcement of any other law of a compacting state that is not
- inconsistent with this compact.
- 466 (b) All compacting states' laws other than state Constitutions and other interstate compacts
- conflicting with this compact are superseded to the extent of the conflict.
- 468 Section 20. Binding Effect of the Compact.
- 469 (a) All lawful actions of the Interstate Commission, including all rules and by-laws promulgated
- by the Interstate Commission, are binding upon the compacting states.

(b) All agreements between the Interstate Commission and the compacting states are binding inaccordance with their terms.

(c) Upon the request of a party to a conflict over meaning or interpretation of Interstate Commission actions, and upon a majority vote of the compacting states, the Interstate Commission may issue advisory opinions regarding such meaning or interpretation.

(d) In the event any provision of this compact exceeds the constitutional limits imposed on the legislature of any compacting state, the obligations, duties, powers or jurisdiction sought to be conferred by such provision upon the Interstate Commission shall be ineffective and such obligations, duties, powers or jurisdiction shall remain in the compacting state and shall be exercised by the agency thereof to which such obligations, duties, powers or jurisdiction are delegated by law in effect at the time this compact becomes effective.