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Contact: Joe Knickrehm, (202) 463-7803

[jknickrehm@fsmb.org](mailto:jknickrehm@fsmb.org); [www.fsmb.org](http://www.fsmb.org)

## **Federation of State Medical Boards Applauds Enactment of Interstate Medical Licensure Compact in Pennsylvania**

*Pennsylvania becomes 18th state to join Interstate Medical Licensure Compact*

WASHINGTON, D.C. (October 26, 2016) – Today, Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf signed into law [legislation](#) sponsored by State Representative Jesse Topper (R-Bedford/Fulton/Franklin) that allows Pennsylvania to become the 18<sup>th</sup> state to join the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (IMLC). The [IMLC](#) aims to increase access to health care by expediting licensure for qualified physicians who wish to practice in multiple states.

“On behalf of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Commission, I welcome Pennsylvania to the group of states that have joined the Compact,” said Jon Thomas, MD, Chairperson of the IMLC Commission. “We greatly appreciate the efforts of Representative Topper to bring the benefits of the Compact to the patients of Pennsylvania.”

“I’m pleased this bill was passed unanimously in the House and Senate and was signed into law by Gov. Tom Wolf today,” said Rep. Topper. “It is my hope Act 112 of 2016 will make quality health care more accessible and affordable for Pennsylvanians, especially those in underserved areas, and lays the groundwork for more use of telemedicine across state lines.”

The IMLC offers a voluntary, expedited licensing process for physicians interested in practicing medicine in multiple states. It is expected to expand access to health care, especially to those in rural and underserved areas of the country, and facilitate the use of telemedicine technologies in the delivery of health care.

The Compact, which has drawn broad support from national and state health care groups, was supported in Pennsylvania by Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC and The Hospital and Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania joins 17 other states that have enacted legislation to expedite multi-state medical licensure since 2015. These states include Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, South Dakota, Utah, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming. The initiative remains under legislative consideration in Michigan.

To learn more about the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact please visit the License Portability [website](#), which includes a helpful [Q&A](#) section as well as [model legislation](#).

**About the Federation of State Medical Boards**

The Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) is a national non-profit organization representing all medical boards within the United States and its territories that license and discipline allopathic and osteopathic physicians and, in some jurisdictions, other health care professionals. The FSMB serves as the voice for state medical boards, supporting them through education, assessment, research and advocacy while providing services and initiatives that promote patient safety, quality health care and regulatory best practices. To learn more about FSMB, visit [www.fsmb.org](http://www.fsmb.org). You can also follow FSMB on Twitter ([@theFSMB](https://twitter.com/theFSMB)).

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