



*“Advocating for NPs in Maryland since 1992”*

### **NPAM Position Statement on NCSBN APRN Licensure Compact**

The Nurse Practitioner Association of Maryland, Inc. (NPAM) does not endorse the APRN Compact for multistate licensure, which was adopted by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) in August 2020. While NPAM supports the concept of a multistate licensure compact for APRNs to allow for ease of practice across state lines to address health care workforce needs, it is unfortunate that we cannot endorse the National Council of State Boards of Nursing's (NCSBN's) APRN Compact and all of the provisions.

NPAM strongly opposes the inclusion of 2,080 practice hours as a prerequisite for a multistate advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) license. The inclusion of practice hours is inconsistent with the evidence and is in direct conflict with the Consensus Model for APRN Regulation: licensure, accreditation, certification and education, and sets a dangerous precedent. The evidence is clear. APRNs are prepared for safe entry to practice at the point of graduation from an accredited graduate program and after the successful passage of a national certification board examination. The inclusion of minimum practice hours as a requirement for a multistate APRN license creates unnecessary and costly regulations for all states and new challenges for the states currently working to retire similar barriers.

Further, NPAM affirms the position that an APRN Compact must include an APRN advisory committee. Incorporating an APRN advisory committee would ensure that there are readily available resources and needed expertise to address the complexity and variety of practice issues. The current compact provides that the APRN compact administrators are composed of the head of each participating state licensing board or that person's designee. It is essential that the compact administrators have a full understanding of each APRN role, and the compact itself should require that a majority of the compact administrators be APRNs, and, that the compact include an APRN Advisory Committee, representing all four APRN roles, include representation from accreditation, certification, education and practice, as well.

NPAM has played an instrumental role in advocating for and removing barriers to practice for Nurse Practitioners in Maryland since 1992. In 2015 NPAM was successful in securing Full Practice Authority in Maryland. We have worked diligently to advocate for statutes that benefit nurse practitioners (NPs) and their patients and do not see any benefits of the current provisions of the APRN Compact as proposed by the NCSBN to Maryland NPs. Thus, we oppose this version of the APRN Compact.

Approved by NPAM Executive Committee 11/10/2021

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