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Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Commission Meeting Report

The Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Commission held its inaugural meeting on October 27-28 in Chicago, IL. The Commission is a result of seven states joining the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (Compact), and is the governing body and is charged with creating and administering the entity that will work with states to issue licenses through the Compact. The Commission includes 22 Commissioners, 2 member representatives of each of the 11 member states (AL, IA, ID, IL, MN, MT, NV, SD, UT, WV, WY). While no member state has appointed an osteopathic physician, the Executive Directors of the Nevada and West Virginia Boards of Osteopathic Medicine are Commissioners.

The Commission is initially being funded by a grant through the Health Resources and Services Administration, with administrative, legal and technical support being provided by the Federation of State Medical Boards and the Council of State Governments.

The majority of the Commission's first meeting focused on bylaws, planning for committees and implementation of the Compact. The Commission discussed goals and realistic expectations for when it could be ready to issue licenses through the Compact; a July 2016 date was discussed but not voted on by the Commissioners. There was substantial discussion about how the Compact will be funded, with several Commissioners mentioning that they are not interested in assessing states a fee to participate. The unknown funding mechanism has been a significant concern for several states.

The following officers were elected:

Chair: Ian Marquard—Montana Board of Medical Examiners

Vice Chair: Jon Thomas, MD—Minnesota Board of Medical Practice

Secretary: Diana Shephard—West Virginia Board of Osteopathic Medicine

Treasurer: Brian Zachariah, MD—Illinois State Medical Disciplinary Board

Next steps

The Commission will meet on December 18, 2015 in Salt Lake City, Utah to hear reports from the various committees appointed. They expect to be able to move forward with a budget, funding plans and a target goal for licensure readiness during this meeting. Until a dedicated website for the Commission is established, updates, meeting notices and agendas will be posted on licenseportability.org.

AAOE Activity

The American Association of Osteopathic Examiners (AAOE) has been involved in the development of the Compact from the beginning, weighing in to ensure adequate osteopathic representation and to ensure equivalent recognition of osteopathic education, training and certification. The AAOE will continue to monitor decisions made by the Commission, and weigh in as necessary in support of osteopathic physicians.