
Wisconsin Legislative Council

ACT MEMO



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2025 Wisconsin Act 76
[2025 Senate Bill 190]

**Ratification of the Respiratory
Care Interstate Compact**

2025 WISCONSIN ACT 76

2025 Wisconsin Act 76 ratifies and enters the state into the Respiratory Care Interstate Compact upon seven total states passing the same compact legislation. The compact allows a respiratory care practitioner to obtain a compact privilege to practice in another compact member state without obtaining a separate license. The act applies only to an applicant for a compact privilege and does not affect requirements for Wisconsin licensure.

Compact Governance

The act creates a Respiratory Care Interstate Compact Commission, which administers the compact and includes one administrator or staff member of the licensure authorities of each member state. The commission has various powers and duties granted in the compact, including establishing bylaws, promulgating binding rules for the compact, hiring officers, electing or appointing employees, and establishing and electing an executive committee. The commission may levy on and collect an annual assessment from each member state or impose fees on licensees of member states to cover the cost of the operations and activities of the commission and its staff.

The act provides for dispute resolution among member states and between member and nonmember states, including a process for termination of a state's membership in the compact if the state defaults on its obligations under the compact. The compact also creates the ability of member states to issue subpoenas that are enforceable in other states.

The compact provides that it may be amended upon the enactment of an amendment by all member states. A state may withdraw from the compact by repealing the statute authorizing the compact, but the compact provides that a withdrawal does not take effect until 180 days after the effective date of that repeal.

Licensure

The act creates a process whereby a respiratory care practitioner may obtain a compact privilege to practice in another compact member state. A licensee's primary state of residence is considered to be his or her home state, and any other member state in which the licensee wishes to practice is considered a remote state. A licensee providing respiratory therapy in a remote state under the compact privilege is required to function within the scope of practice authorized by the remote state. A remote state may take actions against a respiratory care practitioner's compact privilege within that remote state, and if a respiratory care practitioner's home state license is encumbered, the respiratory care practitioner loses his or her compact privilege in all remote states until the home state license is no longer encumbered and two years have elapsed from the date on which the license is no longer encumbered.

Database and Reporting

The act also creates a coordinated database and reporting system containing licensure and disciplinary action information on respiratory care practitioners. The compact provides that member states are responsible for reporting any adverse action against a licensee and for monitoring the database to determine whether adverse action has been taken against a licensee. A member state must submit a uniform data set to the data system with certain information specified in the compact, as required by the rules of the commission.

Effective date: December 11, 2025

For a full history of the bill, visit the Legislature's [bill history page](#).

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