



# Membership Virtual Event

## June 8, 2022

Massage Therapy Licensing Compact and the MTLD:  
Supporting Progress in Massage Regulation

# Technology Courtesies

- ❖ Please confirm your screen name and identify your state/jurisdiction
- ❖ Please mute your microphone unless speaking
- ❖ Please “raise hand” to speak or type your question/comment in the chat
- ❖ Recording the presentation portion of the meeting only



# Membership Virtual Event

## June 8, 2022

Presented by:

Matt Shafer, *Deputy Policy Director, National Center for Interstate Compacts*

Dr. Debra Persinger, *Executive Director, Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards*



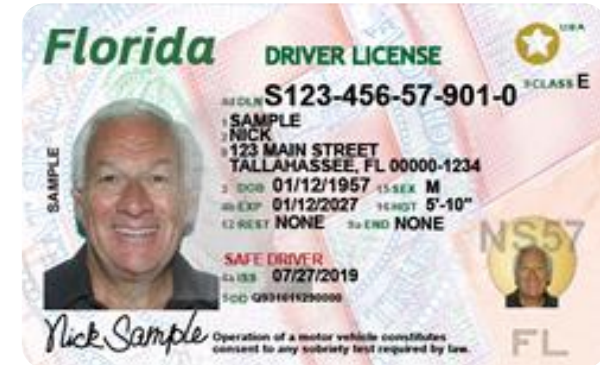
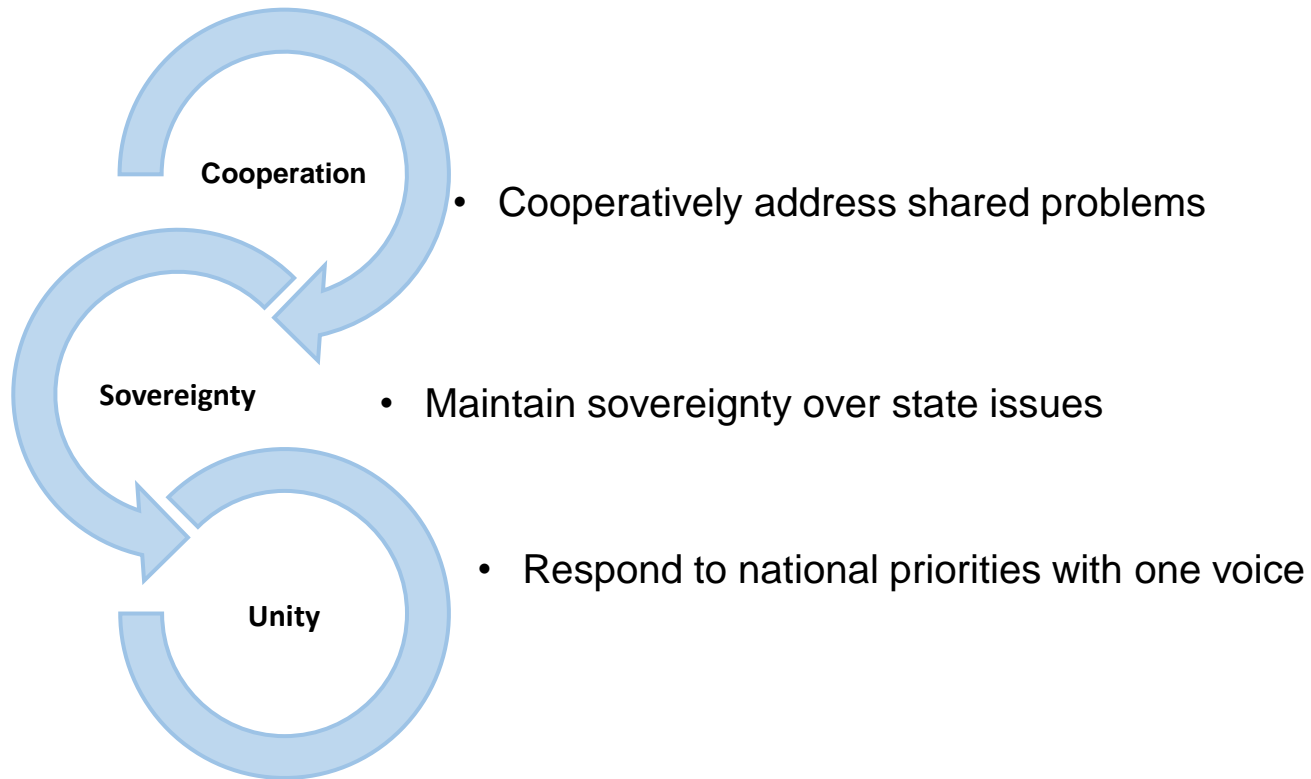
The Council  
of State  
Governments

# An Interstate Compact for Massage Therapy

Presentation to the Federation of  
State Massage Therapy Boards  
June 8, 2022

# What is an Interstate Compact?

A legal, legislatively enacted contract between two or more states that allows states to:



# Occupational Licensing Interstate Compacts

**Facilitate  
Multistate  
Practice**

**Maintain or  
Improve Public  
Health and  
Safety**

**Preserve State  
Authority Over  
Professional  
Licensing**



**44 states have adopted at least one compact.  
28 states have adopted at least three compacts.**



**Over 200 pieces of compact legislation have been  
enacted since 2016.**



**9 professions have active interstate compacts for  
occupational licensing.**

# Active Occupational Licensing Interstate Compacts

Nurse Licensure  
Compact – 39

Psychology  
Interjurisdictional  
Compact – 28

Occupational Therapy  
Compact – 19

Medical Licensure  
Compact – 36

EMS Compact – 21

Counseling Compact –  
10

Physical Therapy  
Compact – 34

Audiology and Speech  
Language Pathology  
Compact – 18

Advanced Practice  
Nursing Compact – 2

# Occupational Licensing Interstate Compacts Under Development

Massage Therapy

Social Work

Cosmetology & Barbering

K-12 Teaching

Dentistry & Dental Hygiene

Physician Assistant

# Compact Development Process

## Phase I Development

### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GROUP

- Composed of approx. 20 state officials, stakeholders and issue experts
- Examines issues, current policy, best practices and alternative structures
- Establishes recommendations as to the content of an interstate compact

### COMPACT DOCUMENT TEAM

- Composed of 5 to 8 state officials, stakeholders, and issue experts
- Crafts compact based on recommendations
- Circulates draft compact to states and stakeholder groups for comment

### FINAL PRODUCT

- Drafting team considers comments and incorporates into compact
- Final product sent to TA group
- Released to states for consideration

## Phase II Education and Enactment

### EDUCATION

- Develop comprehensive legislative resource kit
- Develop informational internet site with state-by-state tracking and support documents
- Convene “National Briefing” to educate legislators and key state officials

### STATE SUPPORT

- Develop network of “champions”
- Provide on-site technical support and assistance
- Provide informational testimony to legislative committees

### STATE ENACTMENTS

- Track and support state enactments
- Prepare for transition and implementation of compact
- Provide requested support as needed

## Phase III Transition and Operation

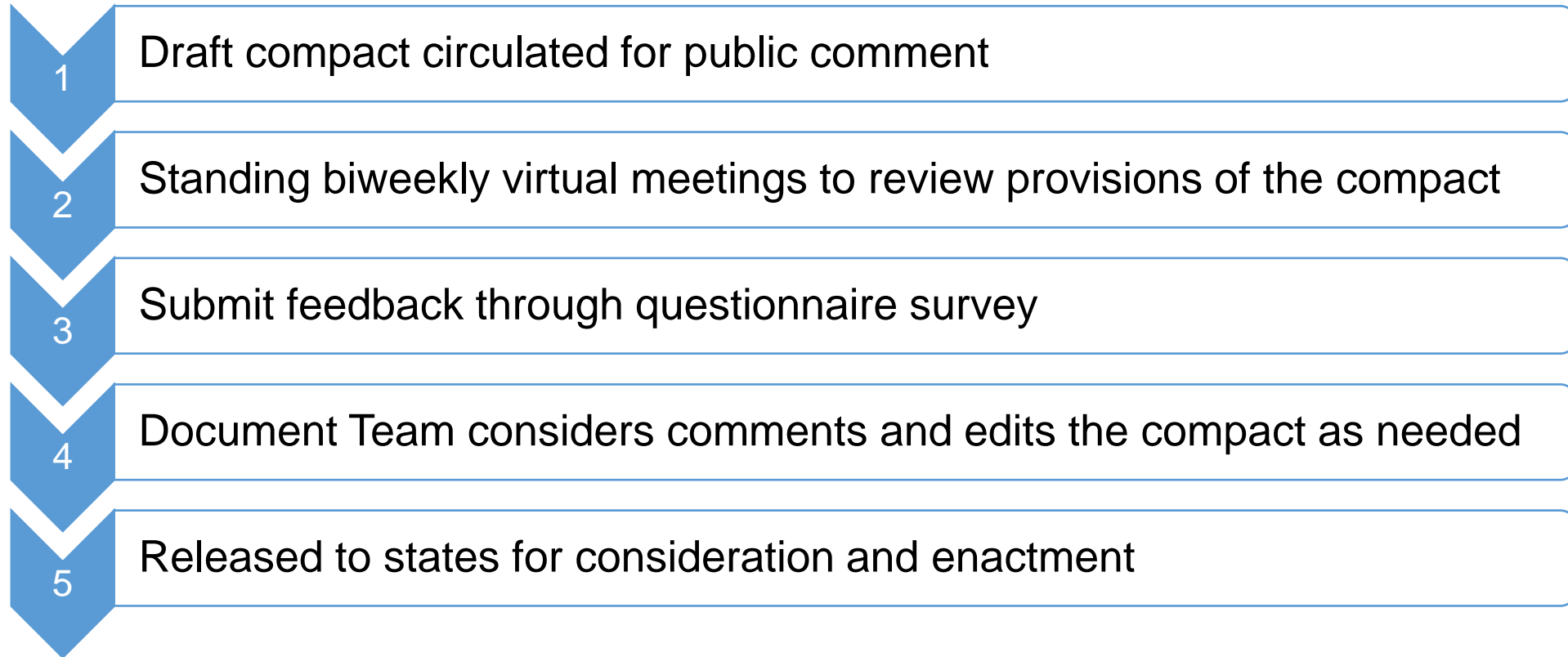
### TRANSITION

- Enactment threshold met
- State notification
- Interim Executive Board appointed
- Interim Committee’s established
- Convene first Compact meeting
- Information system development (standards, security, vendors)

### OPERATION

- Ongoing state control and governance
- Staff support
- Annual assessment, if necessary
- Annual business meeting
- Information system oversight (maintenance, security, training, etc.)
- Long-term enhancements / up-upgrades

# Stakeholder Review

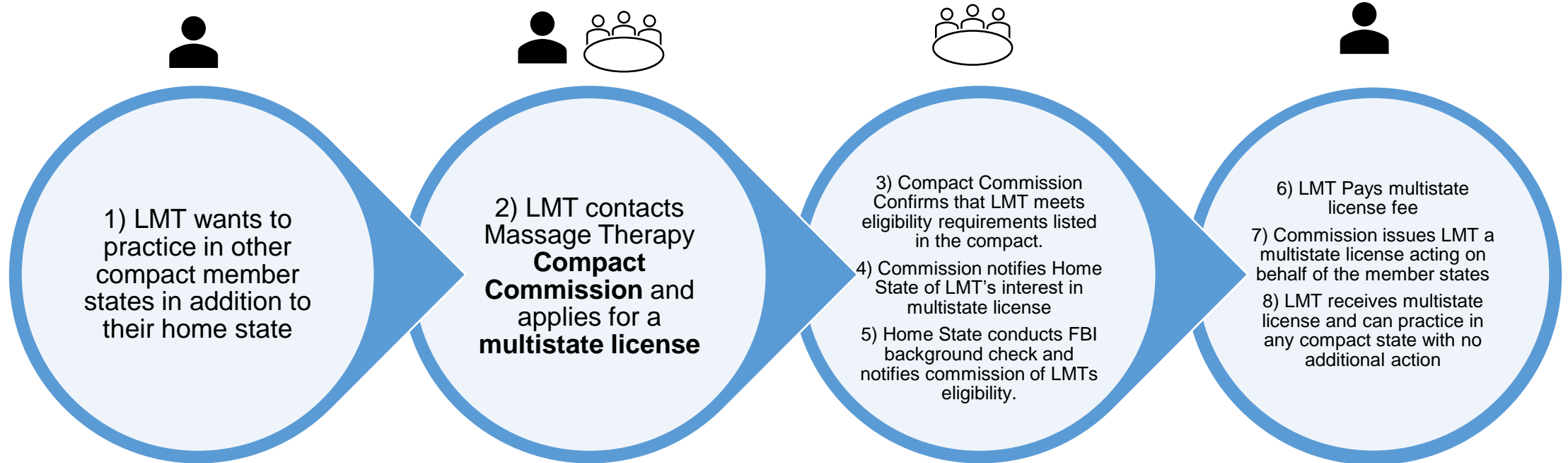




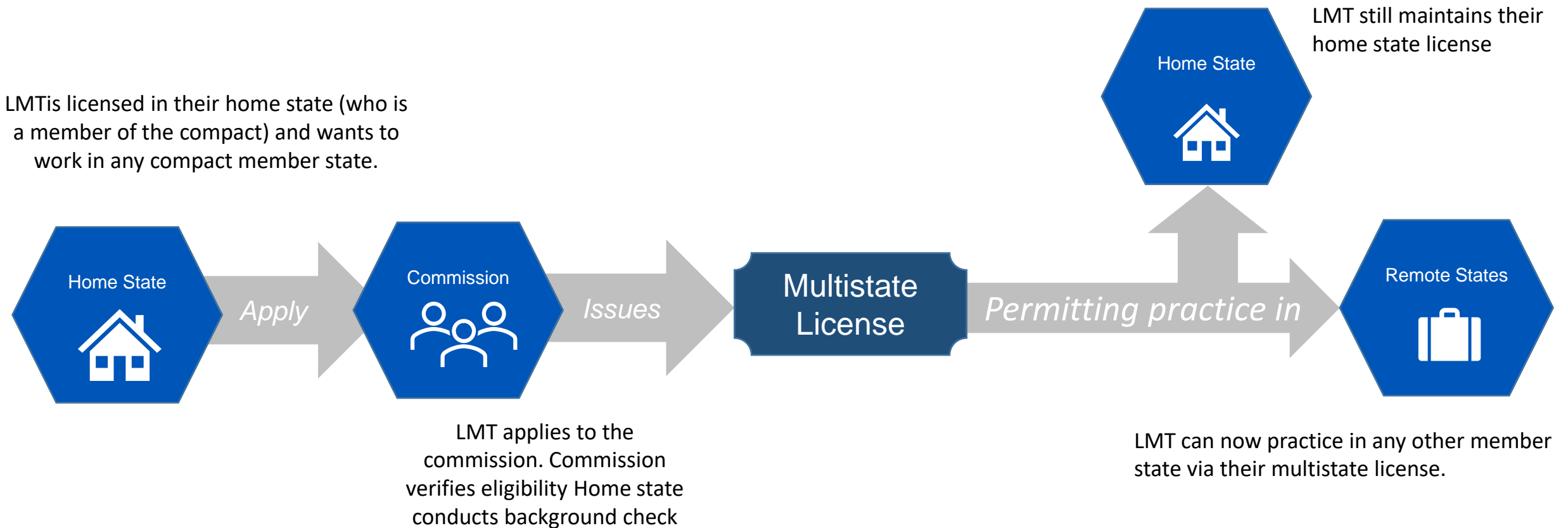
**The Council  
of State  
Governments**

# Interstate Massage Therapy Compact (IMpact)

# Multistate Model



# Multistate Model



# Summary of IMpact

Articles 1 and 2: Purpose statement and defined terms

Article 3: Member state requirements

Article 4: Multistate license requirements

Article 5: Parallel authority of massage therapy licensure compact commission and member state licensing authorities

Article 6: Adverse actions

Article 7: Active-duty military and their spouses

Article 8: Establishment of massage therapy licensure compact commission

Article 9 and 10: Data system and rule making

Article 11: Oversight, dispute resolution and enforcement

Article 12: Date of implementation

Article 13: Construction and severability

Article 14: Binding effect of compact and other law

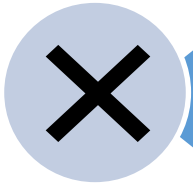
# Article 3- Member State Requirements



License and regulate massage therapy



Require that licensees satisfy education requirements prior to being licensed in that state



Have a mechanism in place to receive and investigate complaints about licensees practicing in that state



Require that Licensees within the State pass the national licensure examination

# State Requirements to Join Compact (cont.)



Notify the commission of discipline actions taken against a licensee



Comply with the rules of the Commission



Require a background check for licensure



Participate in the Data System and notify Commission and other Member States of any disciplinary action

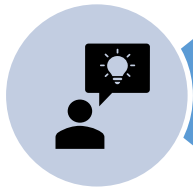
# Article 4- Multistate License Requirements



Hold an active, unencumbered license in Home State, which must be a member of the compact



Have completed at least 625 clock hours of massage therapy education



Passed the national licensing examination



Pay all required fees related to the application

# Multistate License Requirements



No felony convictions within 5 years

No misdemeanor convictions related to massage therapy within 2 years

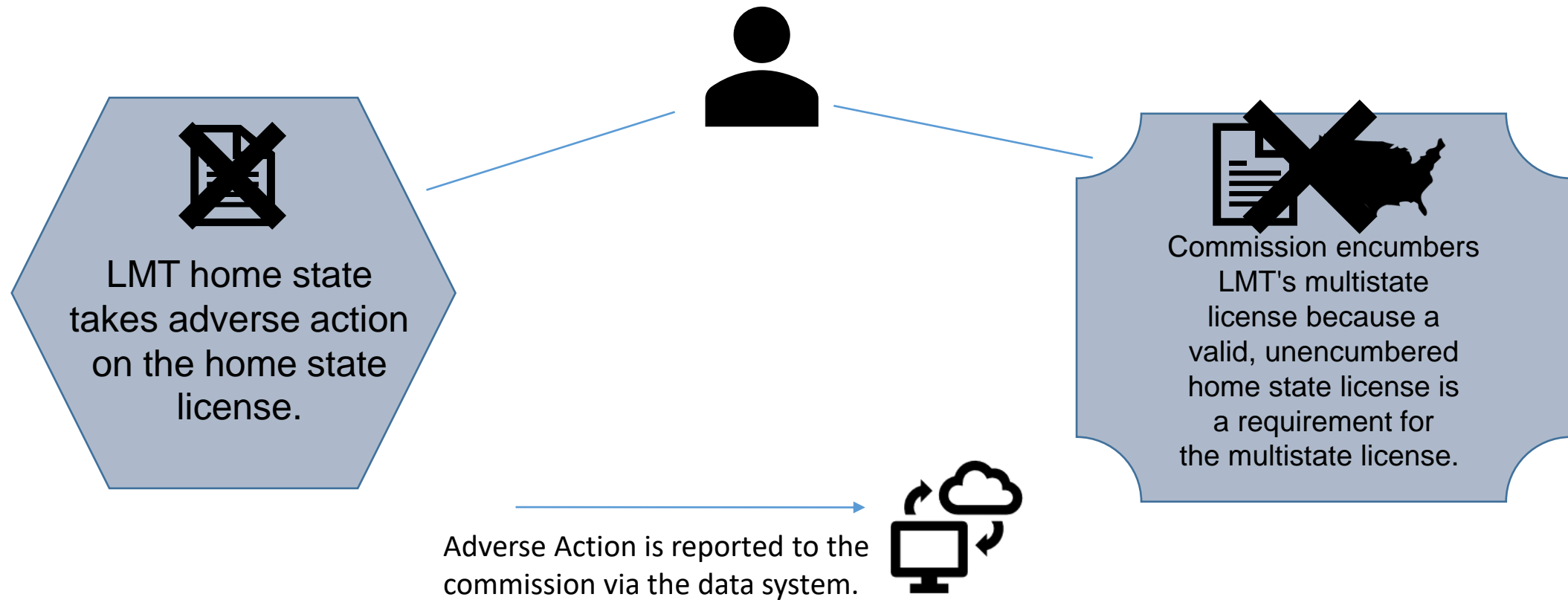
No adverse action on a massage therapy license within two years

Have not previously had a massage therapy license revoked or surrendered in-lieu of discipline

No previous convictions related to: kidnapping, human trafficking, human smuggling, sexual battery, or any other category of offense which the Commission by rule may designate

# Article 6- Adverse Actions

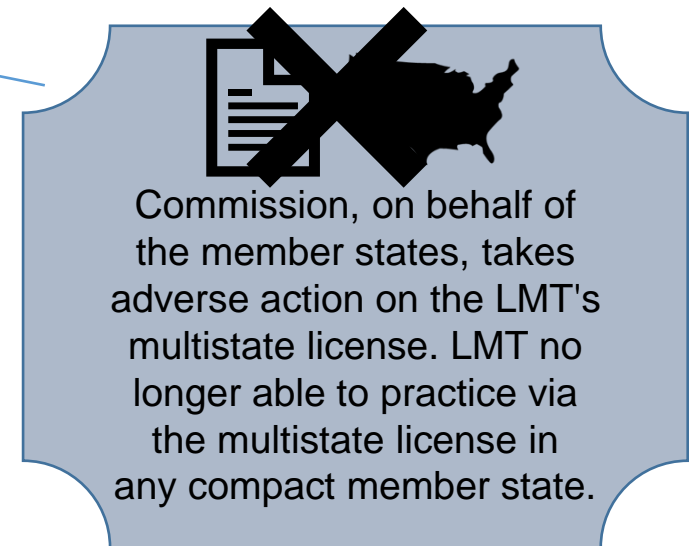
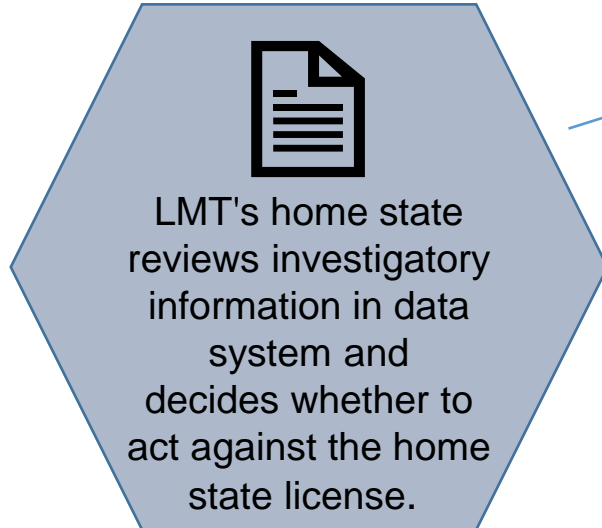
LMT violates practice act in home state.



# Article 6- Adverse Actions

LMT violates practice act in any remote state

Remote state conducts investigation.  
Violation is reported by the remote state to commission via the data system.



# Next Steps

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Standing Stakeholder Review Meetings

Every Tuesday beginning June 14 @ 2pm ET

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Present to other interested groups (AMTA, ABMP, ISPA) summer 2022

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Collect feedback via the questionnaire

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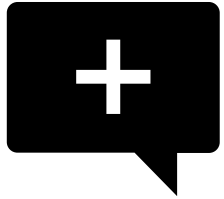
Review and edit compact as determined necessary by Document Team

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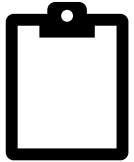
Compact released to states for consideration

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# Survey Questionnaire



**Interested in providing feedback on the draft of the compact?**



**Fill out survey questionnaire:**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/massagetherapycompact>



**Draft Language and Link to the Survey Questionnaire can be found online at:**

<https://compacts.csg.org/compact-updates/massage-therapy/>

# Contact Information

**Matt Shafer**

Deputy Director

National Center for Interstate Compacts

The Council of State Governments

[matthew.shafer@csg.org](mailto:matthew.shafer@csg.org)

**For updates, information, and educational materials**

<https://compacts.csg.org/compact-updates/massage-therapy/>

# MASSAGE THERAPY LICENSING DATABASE

## MTLD



Licensure Exam and  
Application Details

+



State Licensure  
Information

+



Continuing Education  
Coursework

=



Complete Therapist Profile

Consolidate and integrate key data sources to create  
a single view of the therapist

# Goal

- Comprehensive View of Therapists
  - Contact information
  - Licensure information from multiple states
  - Disciplinary and board action
  - Core Education
  - Continuing Education



# MTLD Data Sources

- Primary Source Data
  - MBLEx Applications
  - State Regulatory Boards
  - CE Registry



FSMTB website:

[www.fsmtb.org/member-boardsagencies/impact/](https://www.fsmtb.org/member-boardsagencies/impact/)

https://www.fsmtb.org/member-boardsagencies/impact/

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Home > Member Boards / Agencies > IMpact

## Interstate Massage Compact (IMpact)

Membership  
Member Services >  
Government Relations  
**Impact**  
Message Therapy Licensing Database  
Annual Meeting  
Member Virtual Events

**What is IMpact?**

IMpact is the interstate occupational licensure compact for massage therapists to practice in all states that join the compact, rather than get licenses in every state in which they want to practice. Each compact member state agrees to mutually recognize licenses issued by every other state in the Massage Therapy Compact.

LICENSED MASSAGE THERAPIST → COMPACT COMMISSION → HOME STATE → MULTISTATE LICENSE ISSUED



**Questions?**

**Comments?**

**Thoughts?**

(Recording will now be stopped)

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Next month's topic:

Board Basics:  
Regulatory Board Operations

Wednesday, July 13, 2022



# Thank You!

Post-event survey will be sent out later  
today.

We welcome your feedback.