



**Governor Ned Lamont
State of Connecticut**



FACT SHEET
2024 Legislative Session

**HOUSE BILL 5058
*AN ACT ADOPTING THE NURSE LICENSURE COMPACT***

The Problem

Connecticut faces a shortage of nurses and nursing faculty to train the next generation of providers, which could have lasting effects on the quality of care available to patients throughout the state. Our current licensing structure poses barriers to modern, cross border practice and telehealth.

Connecticut is one of the few states that has not yet joined the 41 jurisdictions as members of the Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC). The NLC is one of a growing number of licensing compacts delivering seamless patient care, reducing regulatory burdens on healthcare workers, and increasing mutual aid during emergencies.

Governor Lamont's Solution

Occupational licensing requirements preserve public health and safety, and we must adapt our occupational licensing programs to reflect the way that health care is delivered today. Governor Lamont proposes joining the 41 jurisdictions that have already joined the Nurse Licensure Compact (NLC) because it will improve access to care, ease the burdens of maintaining multiple licenses, and facilitate telehealth. Membership enables nurses to practice in person or provide telehealth services to patients across the country without obtaining additional licenses. Membership in the NLC makes practicing nursing across state borders more affordable for nurses. Due to its national reach, the NLC will streamline the delivery of high-quality patient care, while increasing mutual aid during emergencies.

A nurse with a multistate license immediately has the privilege to practice in 41 other jurisdictions. Connecticut's membership in the NLC will also allow out of state nurses to fill critical vacancies in nursing across the state, improving the quality of care and easing the burden on Connecticut's nurses who have worked tirelessly since the start of the pandemic.

Joining the NLC will help to facilitate online nursing education by allowing educators to reach more students. Membership in the NLC also reduces the burden on organizations that employ nurses.

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The NLC was written to ensure the highest level of public protection with rigorous uniform licensure requirements and will make cross border practice easy and convenient.