

Bill Summary
2nd Session of the 57th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB 1837
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Author:	Sen. Rader
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Bill Analysis

SB 1837 enters the state into the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact. The Compact provides an interstate reciprocal licensing framework for audiology and speech. States in the Compact are expected to implement appropriate criminal background checks using the Federal Bureau of Investigation record search. States in the Compact shall not share information obtained from such checks.

The Compact also creates the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Compact Commission. Each member state is entitled to 2 delegates, who must be members of the member state's licensing board. The Commission shall select 5 candidates from a pool of nominees provided by the Commission at large. Within 90 days of a delegate vacating his or her office, the member state of the vacated office shall be required to fill the vacancy. The Commission must meet at least once per year and may hire such personnel as needed. An Executive Committee of 10 members from the Commission is also established by the Compact. 3 members of the Committee shall be nonvoting, ex officio members.

Applicants may apply to practice in another state but must comply with their home state's qualifications and regulations for licensure. The Compact also outlines the educational requirements for each licensee and creates a national examination approved by the Commission. Active duty personnel may designate a home state in which they possess a license in good standing.

Licenses encumbered by the home state shall lose their Compact privileges of reciprocity until they are restored to good standing. Misconduct reported by a remote state shall receive the same priority for investigations as a violation in the home state. Individuals not residing in a member state may continue to apply for licensure in Oklahoma, provided they comply with applicable laws of the state. Members of the Compact may also charge a fee for Compact privileges. The Compact also provides a framework for member states to conduct a joint investigation of a licensee.

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