

Bill Summary
1st Session of the 59th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB 575
Version:	CS
Request No.:	1704
Author:	Sen. Stephens
Date:	02/24/2023

Bill Analysis

SB 575 creates the Janet Phillips Act of 2023 and enacts the Counseling Compact into law. The purpose of the Compact is to facilitate interstate practice of Licensed Professional Counselors with the goal of improving public access to Professional Counseling services. The Compact shall require counselors participating in the Compact to pass a nationally recognized exam approved by the Counseling Compact Commission as well as have a 60-semester-hour (or 90-quarterhour) master's degree in counseling or 60 semester hours (or 90 quarter hours) of graduate course work in the areas outlined in the measure. Graduates must also complete a supervised postgraduate professional experience. Member states must participate in the Commission's Data System and notify the Commission of any Adverse Action or the availability of Investigative Information regarding a licensee. Each member state must establish a licensing process for counselors. A license issued to a Licensed Professional Counselor by a home state to a resident in that State shall be recognized by each member state. Such counselors will be authorized to practice remotely in member states' jurisdictions. If a Licensee's Privilege to Practice in any remote state is removed, the individual may lose the Privilege to Practice in all other remote states until certain conditions are met. The measure establishes procedures for licensees to change their resident state. Procedures for considering an applicant's criminal history must also be established by member states. Each member state is entitled to only 1 delegate on the Counseling Compact Commission. The measure establishes an Executive Committee to carry out the duties of the Commission.

Prepared by: Kalen Taylor