



**State of Vermont
Office of the Secretary of State**

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**James C. Condos, Secretary of State
Christopher D. Winters, Deputy Secretary
S. Lauren Hibbert, Director**

MEMORANDUM

To: Senator Ginny Lyons, Chair, Senate Committee on Health and Welfare
From: S. Lauren Hibbert, Director, Office of Professional Regulation
Date: February 19, 2020
Re: S. 125, the Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact

The Office of Professional Regulation (“OPR” or the “Office”) thanks you for the opportunity to testify before you on this matter.

Yesterday in Committee, someone asked what the NCLEX stands for. It is the National Council Licensure Exam and it is offered for registered nurses and licensed practical nurses.

Below is the comparison of the current Vermont nurse licensure requirements and the 11 uniform requirements that would be applicable to a nurse compact license if S.125 was adopted. With the exception of a criminal background check, the Vermont single state requirements would remain the same as present day. I am happy to answer any further questions you may have related to the nurse licensure compact.

Nurse Licensure Compact 11 Uniform Requirements	Currently required in Vermont
Meet requirements for licensure in the home state	currently required
Has graduated from a board-approved education program; or Has graduated from an international education program approved by the authorized accrediting body in the applicable country and verified by an independent credentials review agency	currently required
Has passed an English proficiency exam (applies for graduates of an international education program not taught in English or if English is not the individual's native language)	currently required <u>only</u> for graduates of an international education program not taught in English
Has passed the NCLEX-RN or NCLEX-PN exam or predecessor exam	currently required

Is eligible for or holds an active, unencumbered license (i.e. without active discipline)	currently required, discipline reviewed on a case-by-case basis
Has submitted to state and federal fingerprint-based criminal background checks	not currently required
Has not been convicted or found guilty, or has entered into an agreed disposition, of a felony offense under applicable state or federal law	currently required; reviewed on a case-by-case basis
Is not currently a participant in an alternative program	currently required
Is required to self disclose current participation in an alternative program; and	currently required
Has a valid United States Social Security number	currently required