

# TEXAS STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS



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## RESOLUTION

Of the TEXAS STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS,

Regarding Consideration by THE STATE OF TEXAS for Membership in the Interstate  
COUNSELING COMPACT;

- I. The Counseling Compact (“Compact”) is an occupational licensure compact among states that allows licensed professional counselors residing in member states to practice in other member states without the need for multiple licenses. The Compact became operational April 19, 2022 upon the addition of a 10<sup>th</sup> member state. As of September 9, 2022, the Compact has 17 members.
- II. Residents of Texas stand to benefit in numerous ways should the state join the Compact, including:
  - Expansion of counseling services, including continuity of care when clients relocate or travel.
  - Extending the opportunity to serve clients in other states through teletherapy;
  - Certifying that professional counselors meet acceptable standards of practice while maintaining member states’ licensure autonomy;
  - Allowing military personnel and spouses to maintain their licenses upon relocation by significantly reducing the time needed for authorization to practice;
  - Creating ease and flexibility for counselors responding in crisis situations both in Texas and in other member states;

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- III. Membership in the Compact does not change Texas’s authority to license and regulate the state’s professional counselors. Similar to other successfully implemented licensure compacts in the state of Texas, the Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors (“Board”) would maintain its authority to regulate counselors in order to protect the citizens of Texas.
- IV. Potential State of Texas membership in the Compact enjoys broad support from the counseling profession’s stakeholder organizations.
- V. Board members are willing and available to serve as resource witnesses during consideration of the legislation required to join.