



HOUSE BILL 693: Interstate Massage Compact.

2025-2026 General Assembly

Committee:	House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	September 22, 2025
Introduced by:	Reps. Warren, Riddell	Prepared by:	Jason Moran-Bates
Analysis of:	First Edition		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 693 would make North Carolina a member of the Interstate Massage Compact, allowing for multistate licensure of massage therapists.*

CURRENT LAW: Under current law, massage therapists licensed in other states can be licensed by endorsement in North Carolina if they (1) have a high school diploma, (2) are 18 or older, (3) are of good moral character, (4) submit to a criminal background check, (5) pass an exam on North Carolina jurisprudence, and (6) demonstrate proficiency in English. Massage therapists who practice in states that do not license massage therapy can be licensed by endorsement in North Carolina if they meet the above criteria and (1) have graduated from a massage and bodywork therapy program and (2) pass a massage and bodywork therapy competence exam.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 693 would create the Interstate Massage Compact (Compact), allowing multistate licensure for massage therapists.

In order to be eligible for multistate licensure applicants would have to meet the following criteria:

- Have a valid massage therapy license.
- Have at least 625 hours of massage therapy education.
- Pass a national licensing exam.
- Submit to a criminal background check.
- Not been convicted of any offense related to the practice of massage therapy, kidnapping, human trafficking, or sexual assault.
- Not have had a license revoked.
- Not have any adverse action on a license in the previous two years.

Home states would have the authority to take adverse action against a licensee's multistate license. Remote states would be able to take action against a licensee's license in that state. Military members and their spouses would be able to designate a home state and have that designation remain in effect during any period of active duty.

The bills would establish the Interstate Massage Compact Commission, which would have the authority to implement and administer the Compact and create a multistate data sharing system for the member states of the Compact. Any state may withdraw from the Compact by repealing the legislation that enacted the Compact.

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The North Carolina Board of Massage and Bodywork Therapy would have the authority to adopt rules necessary to implement the provisions of the Compact.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The bill would be effective when seven states have enacted the Interstate Massage Compact legislation.

BACKGROUND: As of September 22, 2025, Nevada, Montana, Arkansas, Ohio, and Virginia have enacted the Compact.

Trina Griffin, LAD Staff Attorney, substantially contributed to this summary.