The “Enhanced” Nurse Licensure Compact
SB 362 & HB 338

The purpose of the legislation is the continuation of North Carolina’s participation in the Nurse Licensure Compact.

- North Carolina was an early adopter of the Nurse Compact – initial legislation was ratified during the 1999 Session of the General Assembly.
- North Carolina has had >16 years of successful nurse licensure compact (NLC) participation.
- The NLC was enacted in 25 states from 2000-2016. Nursing regulators realized that revisions to the NLC were needed to increase participation.
- In May 2015, NCSBN held a special delegate assembly, passing a resolution for all states to move forward and adopt the Enhanced Nurse licensure Compact (eNLC).
- eNLC establishes uniform licensure requirements with a higher threshold for issuing a license with a multistate privilege.
- Multistate privilege cannot be issued to a nurse having a felony conviction or misdemeanor conviction related to the practice of nursing.
- Multistate privilege cannot be issued to a nurse enrolled in an alternative program or with active discipline on his/her license.
- eNLC has rule-making authority and enforcement authority.
- eNLC promotes increased participation by previously non-compact states.
- In 2016, 10 states passed legislation to enact the eNLC.
- In 2017, an additional 4 states have passed legislation and 17 states have pending legislation.
- Our neighboring states of VA, and TN have already passed the eNLC. Both SC and GA have introduced legislation in 2017.
- It is important that NC pass HB 338 to support military families by facilitating the ability to work as a nurse in NC and elsewhere without the requirement for multiple licenses and burdensome fees.