

MINUTES Annual Meeting of the NLC Commission Chicago, IL

August 27, 2024

Commissioners Present:

(Those not present are bolded.)

- 1. P. Benson, AL
- 2. J. Ridenour, AZ
- 3. S. Tedford, AR
- 4. S. Delp, CO
- 5. D. Dalton, CT
- 6. P. Zickafoose, DE
- 7. J. Baker, FL
- 8. N. Taylor, GA
- 9. Z. Pecina, GU
- 10. N. Chopski, ID
- 11. N. Hart, IN
- 12. J. Hildreth, IA (interim virtual)
- 13. C. Moreland, KS
- 14. K. Jenkins, KY
- 15. C. Constanza, LA-PN
- 16. K. Esquibel, ME
- 17. R. Scott, MD
- 18. P. Johnson, MS
- 19. L. Scheidt, MO
- 20. M. Poortenga, MT
- 21. A. Oertwich, NE
- 22. A. Czechowicz, NH
- 23. M. Fortier, NJ
- 24. S. Ferguson, NM (D. Gerencer, designee)
- 25 C. Tillman, NC
- 26. S. Pfenning, ND
- 27. M. Anielski, OH
- 28. J. Barnhouse, OK
- 29. W. Miller, PA
- 30. L. D'Alessio, RI
- 31. C. Moody, SC
- 32. L. Young, SD
- 33. S. Richardson, TN
- 34. K. Benton, TX
- 35. J. Busjahn, UT
- 36. J. Douglas, VA
- 37. C. Vanterpool-Romney, VI
- 38. S. Boni, VT (virtual)

- 39. A. Bradywood, WA
- 40. S. Painter, WV
- 41. R. Weinman, WI
- 42. R. Fillbrandt, WY

#	Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
	BUSINESS AGENDA		
1.	 a) Call to Order b) Commissioner Roll Call c) Declare Quorum Present d) Welcome New NLC Commissioner e) Welcome NCSBN Staff, NCSBN Board of Directors and Guests f) Adopt Business Agenda 	Chair P. Zickafoose called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm CT. P. Zickafoose declared a quorum present. The NLC Executive Committee introduced themselves, and P. Zickafoose recognized incoming NLC Commissioner Claire Morris (VA), and recognized Nur Rajwany, NCSBN CIO, who is retiring this week.	P. Zickafoose asked for a motion to approve the business agenda. P. Benson made the motion, W. Miller seconded. The motion passed.
2.	Minutes of June 11, 2024	W. Miller requested that under the State Affairs section, APRN, to revise legislative to legislature in two places.	P. Benson made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, S. Tedford seconded. The motion passed.
3.	State Affairs Update • Florida Law Update	State Affairs staff presented the legislative updates. NLC: Connecticut – Gov. Ned Lamont signed the NLC into law on May 30, 2024, becoming the 42 nd NLC state. The NLC will become effective Oct 1, 2025. The bill has a sunset provision. A workgroup was formed in the bill to study NLC implementation. Hawaii - the bill passed both chambers but did not advance out of the conference committee. To address immediate workforce needs, the Hawaii Hospital Association championed Senate Bill 63 to expedite licenses for nurses from out of state.	

New York – The NLC was included in Gov. Hochul's 2025 budget. State Affairs worked closely with the ANA-NY chapter, who treated the NLC as a priority this year. The New York State Nurses Association (the nurse union) was in opposition. In May the state held its first hearing on the NLC, and The Assembly Higher Education Committee voted to hold the bill for consideration.

Alaska – The NLC advanced further than in previous years but did not pass. The NLC effort gained new allies, especially in the Senate.

Alaska passed its first compacts this session – physical therapy and the audiology/speech language pathology compacts.

Massachusetts – the NLC was featured in a Boston Globe op-ed in March, which highlighted an NCSBN survey that showed that 90% of the state's nurses support the NLC. The compact was included in a large economic development omnibus bill but the legislature failed to come to a consensus on the bill and the legislature adjourned.

Minnesota – the State Senate heard an omnibus bill that contained many compacts, excluding the NLC. Two amendments proposing the state enact the NLC were brought, but they failed by one vote. Gov. Tim Walz was nominated for vice president; if he resigns ahead of January or wins in November, it will change much of the state's leadership for the 2025 session.

APRN:

South Dakota – the compact was enacted in February 2024.

Arizona – NLC Senate bill 1295 did not pass - the bill was eligible for a 3rd reading in the House (the last step) but was not called before adjournment.

Maryland – the NLC passed in the House the last two years, but the Senate finance committee chair did not bring the bill up for a vote despite a majority of the committee members being in support.

Significant achievements include the formation of a new coalition,
Marylanders for Healthcare
Workforce Access, and a significant increase in the advocacy efforts of the Maryland Hospital Association and Maryland Nurses Association to pass the compact.

2025 Session Outlook:

There are 11 governors up for reelection (seven for open seats) which is an opportunity to craft fresh initiatives. On the latest Policy Knowledge Network call, staff began a new series to explore elements of a five-step public policy process.

Florida Law Update

J. Baker (FL) spoke of the new law (Senate bill 1600) in his state regarding interstate mobility. All health care regulatory boards in Florida are impacted by the bill, which creates standard requirements for endorsement applicants. All existing language in Florida's practice acts related to endorsement was removed and new language was inserted into the umbrella statute in the state.

The new law will go into effect later in 2024 or on Jan. 1, 2025. Those moving to Florida and applying by endorsement must have an active license elsewhere, must have passed NCLEX, and have actively practiced for at least three years during the four-year period immediately from their application date.

The Puerto Rico clause in Florida will be removed. The clause that

		currently is in the Florida endorsement application allows a licensee that applied for endorsement, had not passed NCLEX, but practiced two of the preceding three years with no discipline and no criminal history to be endorsed and receive a single-state license.	
4.	Treasurer's Report	J. Baker reported that as of 6/30/24 the NLC was 18% under budget. Year to date NLC has collected \$96,000 in dues less the \$50,000 MOU fee to NCSBN. The cash balance as of 6/30/24 was just over \$1.2 M. Invoices were sent to boards of nursing on 5/31/24 and are due 10/1/24.	
5.	Rules Committee Report	Committee Co-Chair A. Henley reported on the current committee charges. She stated that the committee reviewed the Alternative to Discipline program participation agreements and drafted model language which boards of nursing (BON) may insert into their agreements. A workgroup developed a model language draft upon the recommendation of the NLC Executive Committee, which will review the draft at its Sept. 2024 meeting. The committee's tasks also included drafting an FAQ related to NLC statute Article III(c)5, which concerns PSOR. The committee decided that the best course of action would be a rule, and this recommendation will be presented to the NLC Executive Committee to at its Sept. meeting for consideration. Future tasks include the development of a regulatory FAQ to define statute, rule, bylaws, policies and advisory opinions, and to provide an interpretation of the statutory requirements of a BON	

		with respect to Art III(c) 6.	
6.	Recognition	P. Zickafoose presented awards to two former NLC committee chairs, T. Buchholz (ND) and L. Scheidt (MO). She presented awards to C. Moody (SC) and M. Poortenga (MT), whose Executive Committee terms are ending, and presented awards to J. Baker (FL) and J. Douglas (VA), both who are retiring from their boards of nursing.	
7.	Policy Committee Report	Committee Chair M. Poortenga explained the revisions made by the committee. The commission had no further edits for policies 3.1 and 4.3. J. Baker requested a minor edit to policy 5.1.	J. Ridenour made a motion to approve policy 3.1 as presented, C. Tillman seconded. The motion passed. J. Baker made a motion to approve policy 4.3 as presented, A. Oertwich seconded. The motion passed. L. Young made a motion to approve policy 5.1 as edited, J. Douglas seconded. The motion passed.
8.	Compliance Committee Report	Committee Chair C. Moody reported that the committee has focused primarily on revising the compliance self-assessment tool to make it more concise and user friendly. The new toolkit will have three components: a checklist, key NLC requirements, and the compliance review, which is composed of six elements. Next steps are a legal review of citations, and seeking 2-3 BONs to pilot the toolkit. Next month the committee will update old compliance policies, and in the future look into the possibility of a compliance dashboard along with Nursys and the NLC Technology Task Force.	

9.	Training & Education Committee	Committee Chair A. Oertwich stated that the committee's primary task over the past several months has been updating fact sheets. She reviewed the educational offerings from NLC this year, including Legal Forum, monthly webinars, Compact Corner, NLC Operations Network, yearly governance training, and a planned new name for Tip of the Week.	
10.	NLC 25 th Anniversary Committee Report	S. Richardson reported on plans for NLC's 25 th anniversary in 2025, explained the purpose, and informed the commission of the anniversary tagline: "The NLC: 25 Years of Multistate Mobility for Greater Access to Care." She informed the commission of the various activities the committee is planning (dinner, gifts, social media) and also selecting criteria for the new NLC Legacy Award.	
11.	Elections Committee Report	Co-Chair C. Tillman informed the Commission of the nomination process, and listed the NLC Executive Committee vacancies and terms. The voting will occur in the last 10 days of September, and the election announcement will be sent on Oct. 1. There were no vice chair nominations from the floor. J. Baker nominated S. Delp (CO) for treasurer from the floor. There were no nominations for Member-at-Large from the floor. Nominations will continue to be accepted through August 31, 2024.	
12.	FY25 Commission Meeting Schedule	P. Zickafoose reviewed the proposed commission meeting dates for FY25.	M. Fortier made a motion to approve the FY25 NLC Commission schedule as presented, P. Benson seconded. The motion passed.

13.	Member Updates	None.	
14.	Open Discussion Forum	None.	
15.	Online Meeting Evaluation	NLC staff emailed the evaluation link to commissioners in attendance.	
	ADJOURNMENT	The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 pm CT.	N. Chopski made a motion to adjourn the meeting, J. Baker seconded. The motion passed.