The North Carolina House of Representatives unanimously passed HB 57, The ENACT PHYSICAL THERAPY LICENSURE COMPACT on February 27. HB 57 was reported out of the House Health Committee on Thursday, February 15 unanimously and out of the House Finance Committee on February 23. Two technical amendments were added to the bill in the Finance Committee.

The bill was sponsored by Rep. John Szoka, Representative Grier Martin, and Representative Holly Grange. The bill will improve access to Physical Therapy services and allow military spouses who are Physical Therapists from other Compact states to have their licenses mutually recognized by North Carolina. HB 57 will preserve states’ rights for accountability to practice standards while promoting licensure portability and enhance cross state health networks.

Nine states have passed the Physical Therapy Licensure Compact in 2016 – Arizona, Missouri, Oregon, Tennessee, Montana, Mississippi, North Dakota, Kentucky, and Utah. The first 10 state to enact the Licensure Compact will form the Compact Commission. It is critical that North Carolina pass this bill as soon as possible so North Carolina can be a member of the Compact Commission.