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Reducing Regulatory Barriers. Increasing Access to Mental Health Care.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CONTACT**

Janet Orwig, MBA, CAE  
Executive Director, PSYPACT  
(678) 216-1188  
[jorwig@asppb.org](mailto:jorwig@asppb.org)

**PSYCHOLOGY INTERJURISDICTIONAL COMPACT (PSYPACT) BECOMES OPERATIONAL**

**GEORGIA** – On April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019, Georgia Governor Brian Kemp signed GA HB 26 into law making Georgia the eighth state to enact the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact (PSYPACT). Georgia joins seven other PSYPACT participating states including Arizona, Utah, Nevada, Colorado, Nebraska, Missouri, and Illinois. The compact, developed by the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB), is set to become operational as soon as it becomes effective in seven states. PSYPACT legislation in Illinois (IL HB 1853) included an effective date of January 1, 2020, and therefore, Illinois does not officially join PSYPACT until that date. As legislation in Georgia is effective upon approval by the Governor, Georgia has become the next PSYPACT participating state required to make PSYPACT operational.

ASPPB CEO Dr. Mariann Burnetti-Atwell remarked, “ASPPB is excited to announce with the recent signing by Georgia’s Governor Brian Kemp of GA HB 26, the much-awaited Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact is now ready to assist licensed psychologist to practice psychology across state lines. These are exciting times for the psychologist and for the individuals they will serve.”

Psychology joins other healthcare professions utilizing interstate compacts to address the regulation of interstate practice. PSYPACT is an interstate compact specifically designed to facilitate the practice of telepsychology and the temporary face-to-face practice of psychology across state lines. Upon becoming operational, each PSYPACT participating state will select one Commissioner to serve as that state’s representative on the PSYPACT Commission. The PSYPACT Commission is the governing body of PSYPACT and is responsible for the drafting and publication of PSYPACT Bylaws and Rules. Upon completion of these documents and finalization of requirements for the ASPPB E.Passport Certificate (for telepsychology) and Interjurisdictional Practice Certificate (for temporary practice), the process will open for licensed psychologists to apply for/begin using these certificates and practicing under the authority of PSYPACT.

According to ASPPB President Dr. Gerald O’Brien, “PSYPACT will promote further cooperation and standardization of requirements among psychology licensing boards, and consequently will improve access to psychological services while serving to protect consumers.”

ASPPB is excited about the progress of PSYPACT and will be providing updates regarding developments of the PSYPACT Commission and the application process for the E.Passport and IPC. If you would like to join our PSYPACT email listserv to receive updates, please email [info@psypact.org](mailto:info@psypact.org) and request to join the listserv. If you would like more information about PSYPACT, please visit our website at [www.psypact.org](http://www.psypact.org).