

**MARYLAND BOARD OF PHYSICIANS
RESPIRATORY CARE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE
4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21215
Thursday, November 10, 2022
MBP Board Room, Room 100**

10:00 a.m. via Zoom

OPEN MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT Thomas French, BS, RRT, RCP, Chair, John Benjamin, M.D., Robert M. Reed,
VIA M.D., Shamus R. Carr, M.D., Jacqueline E. Stokes, MS, MEHP, RRT, Daniel
ZOOM: Whitt, RRT-ACCS, RRT-NPS

STAFF Felicia Wright, Allied Health Supervisor, Noreen Rubin, Esq., Board
PRESENT: Counsel, Matt Dudzic, Manager, Policy/Legislative, Dierdra Rufus,
Senior Allied Health Analyst, Margaret Jury, Allied Health Analyst,
Christa C. Sutton, Allied Health Analyst

ABSENT: Ellen Douglas Smith, Deputy Director, Brenda McKinley, Consumer Member

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. French called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion made by Dr. Benjamin and seconded by Mr. Whitt, the Committee unanimously voted to approve the November 18, 2021 Open and Closed Meeting minutes.

LEGISLATION, REGULATIONS, AND POLICY UPDATES

Mr. Dudzic discussed the timeline for regulatory changes and reviewed pending regulatory changes with the Committee. Mr. Dudzic informed the Committee that proposed legislation may require a significant rewrite of relevant regulations, and advised that if there are any existing areas that they believe require revision, this is a good time to highlight them so that they can be addressed in the next revisions.

BOARD COUNSEL REPORT

Nothing to report

NEW BUSINESS

Felicia Wright, Allied Health Supervisor, for informational purposes only, provided the Committee with a summary of a November 17, 2021, email that the Board received from Matthew Shafer, Associate Policy Director, National Center for Interstate Compacts, the Council of State Governments. The purpose of the email, Ms. Wright stated, was to inform the Board that the Council of State Governments (CSG), National Center for Interstate Compacts, was reaching out to regulators in the respiratory profession to gauge interest in occupational licensing interstate compacts. Mr. Shafer stated that the CSG, through a cooperative agreement with the Department of Defense (DoD), has funding to develop new interstate compacts for interested professions; and recommended that regulators in the respiratory therapy profession consider the funding opportunity.

After highlighting several occupational licensing compacts that the CSG has facilitated the development of (nursing, physical therapy, and physicians through the Interstate Medical Licensing Compact), as well as ones that they are currently working on developing through the cooperative agreement with the DoD (cosmetology, dentistry, and dental hygiene, and massage therapy), Mr. Shafer stated that the AARC conducted a survey around compact licensure for respiratory therapists. Not only did they conduct a survey, but they also actively researched compact licensure, attended webinars by the CSG, surveyed State Boards of Respiratory Care to determine the level of interest, and provided an overview of their findings and survey results in the Spring and Summer 2021 AARC Board meetings. He informed the Board that the AARC concluded that compact licensure is not its priority at this. However, its current priorities are moving the profession forward to require an RRT credential, a bachelor's degree for entry-level licensure, and advancing the profession by developing an advanced credential.

After a brief discussion, the Committee concluded that if compact licensure is not a priority for the AARC, it will likely not be a priority for state regulators in the respiratory profession.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Dr. Reed and seconded by Mr. Whitt, the Committee unanimously voted to adjourn its meeting at 10:26 a.m.

Submitted by:

Signature on File

Dierdra Rufus
Senior Allied Health Analyst