



LFC Requester: Liu

**PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
BILL ANALYSIS
2025 REGULAR SESSION**

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

Check all that apply:

Original Amendment
Correction Substitute

Date Prepared: 01/31 /25

Bill No: HB82

Agency Name and Code: PED - 924

Sponsor: Thomson

PED Lead Analyst: David Vincent

Phone: (505) 695-6574 **Email:** David.vincent@ped.nm.gov

Short Title: PHYSICAL THERAPY
LICENSURE COMPACT

PED Policy Director: Denise Terrazas

Phone: (505) 470-5303 **Email:** denise.terrazas@ped.nm.gov

SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27		
None	None	N/A	NFA

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27	FY28		
None	None	None	N/A	NFA

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY26	FY27	FY28	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	None	None	None	None	N/A	NFA

Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act:

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis: *House Bill 82 (*HB82) proposes to enact the [Physical Therapy Licensure Compact](#), making New Mexico a member state and thereby facilitating the practice of physical therapy across member states. HB82 would allow licensed physical therapists (PTs) and physical therapist assistants (PTAs) from other member states to practice within in New Mexico without obtaining a separate New Mexico license, provided they meet the compact's requirements. The bill would amend the Physical Therapy Act to authorize the New Mexico Physical Therapy Board to conduct state and federal criminal history background checks, as mandated by the compact.

This bill has an emergency clause to take effect immediately upon signing by the Governor.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The bill does not contain an appropriation.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The majority of public schools in the U.S. lack a sufficient number of nurses, psychologists, speech language pathologists and other healthcare professionals, according to a new survey by [AMN Healthcare](#), the nation's leading provider of healthcare workforce talent solutions.

The PT Compact would likely increase the number of physical therapists authorized to provide services in New Mexico, thereby enhancing public access to care. This interstate licensing compact has 31 active member states and is in full operation. [New Mexico Health Care Authority](#) notes that some counties in New Mexico lack adequate physical therapists. University of New Mexico has initiated a women's physical therapy residency program that focuses on women's issues, including pelvic floor disorders, sufferers of which frequently are on waiting lists for months before they can be seen by a specialized therapist. The Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates New Mexico has approximately 65 physical therapists per capita, placing the state in the bottom quartile for practicing physical therapists.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

None.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

PED would likely need to amend [6.63.3 NMAC, Licensure for Instructional Support Providers Pre K-12 Not Covered in Other Rules](#), to address licensure for physical therapists from other jurisdictions.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

Relates to:

- House Bill 79, Audiology & Speech-Language Pathology Compact
- House Bill 81, Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact
- House Bill 110, Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact
- House Bill 118, Professional Recruitment and Retention Act
- House Bill 217, Counselling Compact
- Senate Bill 12, Out-of-State Telehealth Providers
- Senate Bill 46, Interstate Medical Licensure Compact
- Senate Bill 104, Audiology & Speech Licensure Compact
- Senate Bill 105, Social Worker Licensure Compact
- Senate Bill 106, Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact
- Senate Bill 146, Educational Opportunity for Military Children

TECHNICAL ISSUES

None.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

Licensees from other jurisdictions would still be subject to criminal history record check requirements under the School Personnel Act.

ALTERNATIVES

None.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

None.

AMENDMENTS

None.