ALLIANCE for CONNECTED CARE

Federal-State Legal Framework for Interstate Traffic Safety

A useful case study when considering federal options to accelerate telehealth

Background

The Driver License Compact (DLC) is an agreement between member states that allows states to share driver's license information and traffic violation records with other states for legal purposes. Data is exchanged through the National Driver Register (NDR), a computerized database of information about drivers who have had their licenses revoked or suspended, or who have been convicted of serious traffic violations such as driving under the influence. The DLC establishes procedures for reporting traffic offenses, convictions, and license suspensions of persons from a DLC member state within its jurisdiction to the offending individual's home licensing state.

Under the Public Law 85-684 the Beamer Resolution, "Interstate Compacts for Highway Safety Resolution", states were encouraged to form interstate compacts in areas of traffic safety. The DLC was drafted and enacted with Nevada as the first state to join in 1961. Originally, the DLC only dealt with dangerous driving violations such as drunk driving, reckless driving, commission of a felony involving a motor vehicle and others. Later, minor violations were included as well. The American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators later introduced the Driver License Agreement (DLA) in 2002, an interstate compact that combined the DLC and the Non-Resident Violator Compact. Only three member states signed onto the DLA.

Currently, 44 states and the District of Columbia have joined the DLC. Georgia, Massachusetts, Michigan, Tennessee (a member until 1997), Wisconsin, and Nevada[1] (repealed in 2007) are the only states that are not members. The DLC allows drivers to be punished for an out-of-state offense so long as the driver's state has an equivalent statute of the out-of-state offense. For example, a careless driving offense in one state may not transfer back to a driver's home state if that state does not have a statute for such an offense. Therefore, no action will be taken by the driver's home state regarding such an offense.

Regulatory Framework

Each member state passes legislation with certain modifications of the DLC, but the core of the legislation remains the same. Public Law 85-684 is the only federal regulation on DLC, which essentially allows states to enter agreements and contracts regarding traffic safety. Below are citations of state legislation that enacts the DLC:

State	*Citation*
Alabama	Code of Ala. 1975 Secs. 32-6-30 to 32-6-36
Alaska	Alaska: AS Secs. 28.37.010 to 28.37.190
Arizona	A.R.S. Sec. 28-1851
Arkansas	Ark. Code Ann. Secs. 27-17-101 to 27-17-106
California	West's Ann. Cal. Veh. Code Sec. 15000 et seq.
Colorado	C.R.S. Secs. 24-60-1101 to 24-60-1107
Connecticut	C.G.S.A. Secs. 14-111c

[1] Nevada repealed its authorizing statute in anticipation of adopting the DLA as a replacement.

District of Columbia	DC Code Secs. 50-1001, 50-1002
Delaware	21 Del. C. Secs. 8101, 8111, to 8113
Florida	West's F.S.A. Sec. 322.43 et seq.
Hawaii	HRS Secs. 286C-1, 286C-2
Idaho	I.C. Secs. 49-2001 to 49-2003
Illinois	625 ILCS 5/6-700 et seq.
Indiana	IC 9-28-1-1 to IC 9-28-1-6
Iowa	I.C.A. Secs. 321C.1, 321C.2
Kansas	K.S.A. 8-1212 et seq.
Louisiana	LSA-R.S. 32:1420 et seq.
Maryland	Md. [Transp.] Code Ann. Secs. 16-701 to 16-708
Massachusetts	ALM GL 90:30B
Minnesota	M.S.A. Sec. 171.50 et seq.
Mississippi	Code 1972, Secs. 63-1-101 to 63-1-113
Missouri	V.A.M.S. Secs. 302.600, 302.605
Montana	MCA Title 61, Ch. 5, part 4
Nebraska	R.S.N. Vol. 2A Appendix Sec. 1-113
New Hampshire	RSA 263:77-263:81
New Jersey	N.J.S.A. 39:5D-1 et seq.
New Mexico	NMSA 1978 Secs. 66-5-49 to 66-5-51
New York	McKinney's Vehicle & Traffic Law Sec. 516
North Carolina	G.S. Secs. 20-4.21 to 20-4.30
Ohio	RC 4507.60-4507.63
Oklahoma	47 Okl. St. Ann. Sec. 781 et seq.
Oregon	ORS 802.540, 802.550
Pennsylvania	75 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 1581 et seq.
South Carolina	Code 1976, Secs. 56-1-610 to 56-1-690
South Dakota	SDCL Sec. 32-12-56.1
Texas	V.T.C.A. Tran. 523.001 et seq.
Utah	U.C.A. 195353-3-601 to 53-3-607
Vermont	V.S.A. 23 Sec. 3901 et seq.
Virginia	Code 1950, Secs. 46.2-483 to 46.2-488
Washington	RCW 46.21.010 et seq.
West Virginia	W. Va. Code, Secs. 17B-1A, 17B-1A-2
Wyoming	W.S. Secs. 31-7-201, 31-7-202

[Source: National Center for Interstate Compacts]