



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES
Thursday, January 16, 2025

Table with 4 columns: Category (PRESENT, EXCUSED, STAFF, GUEST), Name, Title, and Role. Lists attendees such as Ernise Singleton (Louisiana Commissioner, Chair) and Dianna Ganote (USDOD Representative, Ex-Officio).

ITEM 1 – CALL TO ORDER

1. Commission Chair Ernise Singleton (LA) called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM ET on January 16, 2025.

ITEM 2 – ROLL CALL

2. Roll call was conducted by Executive Director (ED) Cherise Imai. A quorum was established. ED Imai welcomed Darren Embry and Samantha Nance (General Counsel) as guests attending for agenda item discussion.

ITEM 3 – APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

3. Commissioner Kathleen Murphy (NH) motioned to approve the agenda. Commissioner Steve Bullard (KY) seconded the motion. The motion carried.

ITEM 4 – APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

4. Commissioner Bullard motioned to approve the minutes from the December 18-19, 2024, meeting. Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion. The motion carried.

ITEM 5 – EXECUTIVE SESSION

5. Commissioner Mary Gable (MD) motioned to enter the Executive Session, seconded by Commissioner Bullard. The motion carried. The Committee entered the Executive Session at 1:03 PM ET.

6. **Commissioner Bullard motioned to exit the Executive Session, seconded by Commissioner Gable. The motion carried.** The Committee exited the Executive Session at 1:19 PM ET.

7. **Commissioner Gable motioned for the EXCOM and Communications & Outreach Committee to review the Code of Conduct (COC) policy for updates and adjustments. Commissioner Chad Delbridge (WY) seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

ITEM 6 – OLD BUSINESS

8. **Legal Advisory: Tennessee Commissioner Inquiry Response** – Chair Singleton reviewed the response from the Tennessee Commissioner which clarified her interest regarding the eligibility of Ex-officio Representatives to be appointed to and participate specifically on the Finance Committee. A legal advisory from General Counsel was requested in response to the inquiry. Ms. Nance reviewed legal advisory 1-2025 and explained how the source of law (the Compact statute language, by-laws, and Rules) permitted Ex-officio members to serve on the Finance Committee without conflicts of interest.

9. **Commissioner Bullard motioned to approve the release of legal advisory 1-2025. Commissioner Gable seconded the motion. The motion carried.** The legal advisory would be emailed directly to the Tennessee Commissioner followed by a release to the full Commission.

10. **Education Management Systems (EMS)** – ED Imai reviewed Part Two of the final report submitted by EMS. The Finance Committee would review the report for approval at their next meeting. EMS asked if the Commission would like to draft performance appraisals using the contracted JobsCorp software. The members agreed to review and consider the proposal before the next meeting.

11. **US Department of Defense (DoD)** – ED Imai state DoD Representative Dianna Ganote was unable to attend the meeting and informed the members that the Commission received the final reports of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) Report to Congress and the Pennsylvania State Clearinghouse SPEAK Study. The NDAA report was forwarded to the Senate Minority Leader and Armed Services Committee members. Ms. Geraldine Valentino-Smith, director of the Defense-State Liaison Office, offered to hold a one-on-one session with the Commission to review the findings and answer questions. Senator Jack Reed (RI) was a ranking member on the committee and Commissioner Rosemarie Kraeger (RI) stated she would be meeting with him to discuss the report at the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS) conference in March. ED Imai recommended releasing both reports to the full Commission. The members agreed to table the items until the next meeting to discuss the reports with Ms. Ganote.

12. **Current Cases** – Training and Operations Associate Lindsey Dablow reported the previous case involving official transcripts was closed after the final transcripts were obtained with assistance from the New York Commissioner.

13. Ms. Dablow reviewed the California case involving graduation and course placement and introduced the state Commissioner's request for a legal advisory addressing three questions related to the case. The members agreed that the first two questions related to partial credit and seat time were answered by the legal advisory *1-2024 Scope of SEC 5.104 Placement Flexibility*. Ms. Nance confirmed that the Commission resolved a similar case regarding graduation requirements and waivers from the same school district in 2022. Ms. Dablow traveled to the school district and provided in-person training on the Compact. .

14. **Commissioner Lynch motioned to provide the California Commissioner with context that would answer his first two questions and have a legal advisory drafted to answer the third question of the inquiry. Commissioner Delbridge seconded the motion. The motion carried.** The legal advisory and context materials would be sent to the California Commissioner and reviewed by internal process of the California Department of Education (CDE) legal team.

ITEM 7 – NEW BUSINESS

15. **Compliance** – Commissioner Bullard reported the Compliance Committee met on January 14, 2025, and agreed to elevate the state of Vermont to the EXCOM for non-compliance with the Compact. The Vermont Commissioner was chronic for not attending the ABM and submitting end-of-year reporting documents over multiple years and had not responded to communications from the national office throughout FY25. The Compliance Committee recommended to have general counsel send a referral to the appointing authority of Vermont in request of a new commissioner.

16. **Commissioner Bullard motioned to request a new commissioner from the Vermont appointing authority. Commissioner Laura Anastasio (CT) seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

17. Commissioner Bullard reported the Committee reviewed the State Compliance infographic which was amended due to feedback from member states. He reported the graphic will utilize a new word for “outstanding” in reference to items that had not been submitted to date and before the June 30th deadline. In addition, the block item color for this status was amended from red to white.”. The Committee also amended the deadline for COC and COI submissions from January 31 to June 30 of the fiscal year in alignment with other deadlines, which would be in effect in FY26. The members agreed to table approval of this item until after the Executive and Communications & Outreach Committees reviewed the COC and COI policies.

ITEM 8 – OTHER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

18. No further business was announced.

ITEM 9 – ADJOURNMENT

19. **Commissioner Lynch motioned to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Bullard seconded the motion.** The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM ET.