

RULES COMMITTEE MINUTES

Tuesday, July 21, 2026

2:00 – 3:00 PM ET

PRESENT	Ben Rasmussen	Utah Commissioner	Chair
	Laura Anastasio	Connecticut Commissioner	
	Donald Enoch	Alaska Commissioner	
	Michael Essien	Oregon Commissioner	
	Lisa Helme	Vermont Commissioner	
	Joseph Hood	District of Columbia Commissioner	
	Peter Laing	Arizona Commissioner	
	Ernise Singleton	Louisiana Commissioner	
EXCUSED	Ryan Foor	Nebraska Commissioner	
	Nick Lambruno	West Virginia Commissioner	
	Mark Vollmer	North Dakota Commissioner	
STAFF	Lindsey Dablow	Executive Director	
	Trevin Stevens	Communications Associate	
	Allie Thomas	Operations Coordinator	
	Samantha Nance	General Counsel	
GUEST	Debra Jackson	New York Commissioner	

ITEM 1 – CALL TO ORDER

1. Committee Chair Ben Rasmussen (UT) called the meeting to order at 2:01 PM ET.

ITEM 2 – ROLL CALL

2. Communications Associate Trevin Stevens called the roll. A quorum was established. Chair Rasmussen welcomed Commissioner Debra Jackson (NY) as a guest to discuss items of the meeting.

ITEM 3 – APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

3. Commissioner Ernise Singleton (LA) motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Lisa Helme (VT). The motion carried.

ITEM 4 – APPROVAL OF THE MEETING MINUTES

4. Commissioner Singleton motioned to approve the meeting minutes from June 16, 2026, seconded by Commissioner Joseph Hood (DC). The motion carried.

ITEM 5 – REPORTS

5. **Executive Committee (EXCOM)** – Chair Rasmussen reported that The Executive Committee met on June 18 and July 16. At the June meeting, the EXCOM approved the *Vice Chair Appointment Guide* and began reviewing the draft agenda for the 2026 Annual Business

Meeting (ABM). The Committee also reviewed the *Commissioner Role and Responsibilities Guidance for Appointing Authorities* packet, which will be reviewed at the summer Tier Group meetings. At the July Meeting, the EXCOM discussed the progress of the Standing Committees with the Year 1 items assigned in the 2026-2028 Strategic Plan, along with ABM-related items, including the reception and icebreaker.

6. **National Office** – Ms. Dablow provided the National Office report, including end-of-year compliance updates, state council meetings and trainings held in Fiscal Year (FY) 2026, upcoming webinars, and information on the 2026 ABM. She noted that she met with Vice Chair Mary Gable and the Department of War Defense-State Liaison Office Director, Sarah Stein, where they discussed enhancing communication and the sharing of information. Ms. Dablow warned the members about a possible government shutdown that could prevent representatives from federal agencies, including School Liaisons and US Coast Guard representatives, from attending the ABM.

ITEM 6 – OLD BUSINESS

7. **Virginia Amendment to SEC 4.103 Transfers During Senior Year** – Chair Rasmussen reviewed the revised language to the proposed Rules amendments *SEC 1.101 Definitions* and *SEC 4.103 Transfers During Senior Year* as provided by General Counsel and outlined the options available for the Committee to act on. Chair Rasmussen shared that the Committee could post the revised language for a 30-day Commission comment period for further review in August if the members thought the changes made during June's meeting substantially deviated from the initial language provided to the Commission for comment. The Committee members determined the amendments to the language initially submitted by the state of Virginia and provided to the Commission during the Commission comment period were not substantially different and could proceed without re-posting for Commission comment. Chair Rasmussen explained that the remaining options were to table the proposed amendments for a year to allow additional research or consideration, if necessary or refer the proposed amendments to the EXCOM for consideration at the 2026 Annual Business Meeting.

8. Commissioner Jackson provided clarification regarding her initial comment to the Rules amendments. She explained that while New York can grant a standard Regents Diploma based on comparable coursework and alternative verification methods, students are generally not eligible for the Advanced Regents Diploma without completing the required Regents examinations. Her concern was that New York could face challenges from families seeking the advanced diploma designations despite state requirements.

9. The members discussed the meaning of “substantially comparable” graduation requirements and how the proposed amendments applied to students transferring in their senior year. General Counsel Samantha Nance provided clarification on the revised language and definitions given. The members agreed that the proposed language largely clarified existing Compact practices rather than creating significant new obligations. If a receiving state cannot award a comparable advanced diploma due to state-specific requirements, the school may need to work with the sending state for diploma issuance, as is current practice for reciprocal diplomas.

10. **Commissioner Singleton motioned to refer the proposed Rule amendments to the EXCOM for review, seconded by Commissioner Michael Essien (OR). The motion carried.**

ITEM 7 – NEW BUSINESS

11. **FY2026 Rules Committee Report** – Chair Rasmussen provided an overview of the Rules Committee Report that would be included in the 2026 Annual Report and ABM Docket Book. The report highlighted the Committee's activities from the past year.

12. **Commissioner Singleton motioned to approve the FY2026 Rules Committee Report, seconded by Commissioner Hood. The motion carried.**

13. **2026 Annual Business Meeting Presentation** – Chair Rasmussen reviewed the Committee's presentation slides for the 2026 ABM, noting inclusion of the proposed Rules amendments and edits that were made following recommendations from the members prior to the meeting.

14. **Commissioner Singleton motioned to approve the Committee's 2026 ABM Presentation, seconded by Commissioner Don Enoch (AK). The motion carried.**

15. **Rules Promulgation Webinar** – Chair Rasmussen provided an overview of the updated script and presentation slides for the Rules Promulgation Webinar, noting that the Standing Committees were updating Commissioner resources as part of the 2026-2028 Strategic Plan. The previous Rules Promulgation Webinar was recorded by Vice Chair Gable in 2023. As chair of the Rules Committee, Chair Rasmussen would present and record the updated webinar.

16. **Commissioner Essien moved to approve the Rules Promulgation Webinar slides and script, seconded by Commissioner Singleton. The motion carried.**

ITEM 8 – OTHER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

17. **Compact Training** – Chair Rasmussen reminded members that the next Compact 101 Training session would be held on August 4, 2026.

18. **Lunch and Learn: Case Studies Session** – Chair Rasmussen reminded members that the next Lunch and Learn: Case Studies session would focus on school choice and would be held on August 19, 2026. He encouraged the members to register and attend the monthly sessions.

19. **Feedback for the EXCOM** – No comments or feedback were provided for the EXCOM.

ITEM 9 – ADJOURNMENT

20. With no further business to conduct, the meeting adjourned at 2:44 PM ET.

Respectfully submitted by,
Lindsey Dablow
Secretary