

REQUIRED TO ENABLE ITS OFFICERS AND GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES TO ACCOMPLISH EFFECTIVELY THE PURPOSES OF THIS COMPACT.

15.18. AMENDMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTS. —AMENDMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTS TO THIS COMPACT MAY BE ADOPTED BY LEGISLATIVE ACTION OF ANY OF THE SIGNATORIES CONCURRED IN BY ALL OF THE OTHERS.

15.19. CONSTRUCTION. —THE ENACTMENT OF THIS COMPACT BY THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES SHALL NOT BE CONSTRUED AS INDICATING AN INTENT ON THE PART OF THE CONGRESS TO OCCUPY THE FIELD IN WHICH ANY PART OF THIS COMPACT OPERATES TO THE EXCLUSION OF INDIVIDUAL STATE LAWS ON THE SAME SUBJECT MATTER. IT IS THE INTENT OF THE CONGRESS AND OF THE LEGISLATURES OF THE OTHER SIGNATORIES THAT NO PROVISION OF THIS COMPACT SHALL BE CONSTRUED AS INVALIDATING ANY PROVISION OF LAW OF ANY SIGNATORY UNLESS SUCH PROVISION IS INCONSISTENT WITH ANY OF THE PURPOSES OF THIS COMPACT OR OF ANY PROVISION THEREOF; AND THAT NOTHING IN THIS COMPACT SHALL BE CONSTRUED TO MODIFY OR QUALIFY THE AUTHORITY OF ANY SIGNATORY TO ENACT OR ENFORCE LEGISLATION OR REGULATIONS RELATING TO ANY SUBJECT MATTER OF THIS COMPACT WHICH ARE WITHIN ITS JURISDICTION AND NOT INCONSISTENT WITH ANY PURPOSE OR PROVISION OF THIS COMPACT.

15.20. SEVERABILITY. —IF ANY WORD, PHRASE, CLAUSE, SENTENCE OR PROVISION OF THIS COMPACT OR THE APPLICATION THEREOF TO ANY PERSON OR CIRCUMSTANCE IS HELD INVALID, THE REMAINDER OF THE COMPACT AND THE APPLICATION OF THE WORD, PHRASE, CLAUSE, SENTENCE OR PROVISION TO OTHER PERSONS NOT SIMILARLY SITUATED OR TO OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES SHALL NOT BE AFFECTED THEREBY.

15.21. EFFECTIVE DATE; EXECUTION. —THIS COMPACT SHALL BECOME BINDING AND EFFECTIVE THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER ITS ENACTMENT BY THE LEGISLATURES OF MARYLAND, PENNSYLVANIA, VIRGINIA AND WEST VIRGINIA, AND BY THE CONGRESS ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA. THE COMPACT SHALL BE SIGNED AND SEALED IN SEVEN (7) IDENTICAL ORIGINAL COPIES BY THE RESPECTIVE CHIEF EXECUTIVES OF THE SIGNATORIES. ONE SUCH COPY SHALL BE FILED WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE SIGNATORIES OR IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE SIGNATORY IN WHICH THE FILING IS MADE, AND ONE COPY SHALL BE FILED AND RETAINED IN THE ARCHIVES OF THE COMMISSION UPON ITS ORGANIZATION.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This compact presently appears as