

(1) LOCATING ADOPTIVE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN WHO ARE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE STATE ASSISTANCE AND ASSURING THE PROTECTION OF THE INTERESTS OF THE CHILDREN AFFECTED DURING THE ENTIRE ASSISTANCE PERIOD REQUIRES SPECIAL MEASURES WHEN THE ADOPTIVE PARENTS MOVE TO OTHER STATES OR ARE RESIDENTS OF ANOTHER STATE; AND

(2) PROVIDING MEDICAL AND OTHER NECESSARY SERVICES FOR CHILDREN, WITH STATE ASSISTANCE, IS MORE DIFFICULT WHEN THE SERVICES ARE PROVIDED IN OTHER STATES.

(B) THE PURPOSES OF THIS SUBTITLE ARE TO:

(1) AUTHORIZE THE ADMINISTRATION TO ENTER INTO INTERSTATE AGREEMENTS WITH AGENCIES OF OTHER STATES FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN ON WHOSE BEHALF ADOPTION ASSISTANCE IS BEING PROVIDED; AND

(2) PROVIDE PROCEDURES FOR INTERSTATE ADOPTION ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS, INCLUDING MEDICAL PAYMENTS.

5-4A-03.

(A) THE ADMINISTRATION MAY DEVELOP, PARTICIPATE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF, NEGOTIATE, AND ENTER INTO ONE OR MORE INTERSTATE COMPACTS ON BEHALF OF THIS STATE WITH OTHER STATES TO IMPLEMENT ONE OR MORE OF THE PURPOSES OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(B) WHEN ENTERED INTO, AND FOR SO LONG AS IT SHALL REMAIN IN FORCE, THE COMPACT SHALL HAVE THE FORCE AND EFFECT OF LAW.

5-4A-04.

(A) A COMPACT ENTERED INTO PURSUANT TO § 5-4A-03 OF THIS SUBTITLE SHALL INCLUDE:

(1) A PROVISION MAKING THE COMPACT AVAILABLE FOR JOINDER BY ALL STATES;

(2) A PROVISION FOR WITHDRAWAL FROM THE COMPACT UPON WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE PARTIES, BUT WITH A PERIOD OF 1 YEAR BETWEEN THE DATE OF THE NOTICE AND THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE WITHDRAWAL;

(3) A REQUIREMENT THAT THE PROTECTION AFFORDED BY OR PURSUANT TO THE COMPACT CONTINUE IN FORCE FOR THE DURATION OF THE ADOPTION ASSISTANCE AND BE APPLICABLE TO ALL CHILDREN AND THEIR ADOPTIVE PARENTS WHO ON THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE WITHDRAWAL ARE RECEIVING ADOPTION ASSISTANCE FROM A PARTY STATE OTHER THAN THE ONE IN WHICH THEY ARE RESIDENTS AND HAVE THEIR PRINCIPAL PLACE OF ABODE; AND

(4) A REQUIREMENT THAT EACH INSTANCE OF ADOPTION ASSISTANCE TO WHICH THE COMPACT APPLIES BE COVERED BY AN ADOPTION ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT IN WRITING BETWEEN THE ADOPTIVE PARENTS AND THE STATE CHILD WELFARE AGENCY OF THE STATE WHICH UNDERTAKES TO PROVIDE THE ADOPTION ASSISTANCE AND THAT THE ADOPTION ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT BE EXPRESSLY