

ARTICLE XIII. SEVERABILITY AND CONSTRUCTION.

(A) THE PROVISION OF THIS COMPACT SHALL BE SEVERABLE, AND IF ANY PHRASE, CLAUSE, SENTENCE, OR PROVISION IS DEEMED UNENFORCEABLE, THE REMAINING PROVISION OF THE COMPACT SHALL BE ENFORCEABLE.

(B) THE PROVISIONS OF THIS COMPACT SHALL BE LIBERALLY CONSTRUCTED TO EFFECTUATE ITS PURPOSES.

ARTICLE XIV. BINDING EFFECT OF COMPACT AND OTHER LAWS.

(A) (1) NOTHING IN THIS SUBTITLE PREVENTS THE ENFORCEMENT OF ANY OTHER LAW OF A COMPACTING STATE THAT IS NOT INCONSISTENT WITH THE COMPACT.

(2) ALL COMPACTING STATES' LAWS CONFLICTING WITH THIS COMPACT ARE SUPERSEDED TO THE EXTENT OF THE CONFLICT.

(B) (1) ALL LAWFUL ACTIONS OF THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION, INCLUDING ALL RULES AND BYLAWS PROMULGATED BY THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION, ARE BINDING UPON THE COMPACTING STATES.

(2) ALL AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION AND THE COMPACTING STATES ARE BINDING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR TERMS.

(3) UPON THE REQUEST OF A PARTY TO A CONFLICT OVER MEANING OR INTERPRETATION OF INTERSTATE COMMISSION ACTION, AND UPON A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE COMPACTING STATES, THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION MAY ISSUE ADVISORY OPINIONS REGARDING SUCH MEANING OR INTERPRETATION.

(4) IN THE EVENT ANY PROVISION OF THIS COMPACT EXCEEDS THE CONSTITUTIONAL LIMITS IMPOSED ON THE LEGISLATURE OF ANY COMPACTING STATE, THE OBLIGATIONS, DUTIES, POWERS, OR JURISDICTION SOUGHT TO BE CONFERRED BY SUCH PROVISION UPON THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION SHALL BE INEFFECTIVE AND SUCH OBLIGATIONS, DUTIES, POWERS, OR JURISDICTION SHALL REMAIN IN THE COMPACTING STATE AND SHALL BE EXERCISED BY THE AGENCY THEREOF TO WHICH SUCH OBLIGATIONS, DUTIES, POWERS, OR JURISDICTION ARE DELEGATED BY LAW IN EFFECT AT THE TIME THIS COMPACT BECOMES EFFECTIVE.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act may not take effect until the later of July 1, 2002 or upon enactment of a similar Act by no less than 35 of the states; that no less than 35 states are requested to concur in this Act of the General Assembly of Maryland by the passage of a similar Act; that the Department of Legislative Services shall notify the appropriate officials of the passage of this Act; and that upon concurrence in this Act by no less than 35 states and approval by the United States Congress, the Governor of the State of Maryland shall issue a