

Telehealth Task Force

Meeting Minutes
September 17, 2025
9:30 - 11:00 am

Date of meeting: Wednesday, September 17, 2025

Start time: 9:30 am

End time: 11:00 am

Location: Virtual Meeting (Zoom)

Member Votes		Present	Vote I*
1	Joanne Marqusee – Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) (Chair)	X	X
2	Vita Berg – Board of Registration in Medicine (BORIM)	X	X
3	Philip Ciampa – Atrius Health	X	X
4	Adam Delmolino – Massachusetts Health & Hospital Association (MHA)	X	X
5	Zandra Kelley – Greater Lawrence Family Health Center	X	X
6	David Martin – Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation (OCABR)	X	X
7	Martha Ryan – Department of Mental Health (DMH)	X	X
8	Kara Vidal – Health Policy Commission (HPC)	X	X
9	Jess Zeidman – Department of Public Health (DPH)	X	X

* (X) Voted in favor; (O) Opposed; (A) Abstained from vote; (-) Absent from meeting or during vote

Proceedings

Assistant Secretary Marqusee called the meeting to order at 9:30 am. She welcomed members and explained that EOHHS Secretary Mahaniah had appointed her to chair the Task Force as his designee. She informed members that the Task Force meeting is subject to the Open Meeting Law (OML) and that any votes taken during the meeting would be conducted via roll-call vote.

Gabriel Cohen and Phil Duarte with EOHHS administered the oath of office to members.

Lauren Cleary, Associate General Counsel with EOHHS, provided an overview of the OML as it relates to the work of the Task Force. She emphasized the importance of transparency in how the Task Force conducts its work and explained the specific limitations related to members' communications (via email, text, and otherwise) outside of a formal meeting on matters which might pertain to the work of the Task Force.

Gabriel Cohen provided the Task Force with a brief overview of the State's conflict of interest and ethics regulations. He explained that members of the Task Force are considered "special state employees" and are required to complete the State Ethics Commission's online conflict of interest training within 30 days of their appointment to the Task Force. He summarized some of the restrictions placed on members by the nature of their service on the Task Force and stressed that members should view the State Ethics Commission as a resource and reach out directly with questions or concerns related to potential conflicts of interest.

After a round of introductions, Assistant Secretary Marqusee reviewed the Task Force's legislative charge, which includes an evaluation of the State's options for facilitating appropriate interstate telemedicine practice across state lines, specifically focused on physicians. She noted that the group was given until 7/1/2026 to submit its recommendations to the Legislature.

Jeremy Sherer, Partner at the law firm Orrick, presented an overview of interstate medical licensure approaches, including the regulatory landscape. Key takeaways from the presentation included the clarification that the laws of the state where patients are located govern the care that is delivered via telehealth, emphasizing that in practice, even though a physician located in Massachusetts may be treating a patient located in Florida via telehealth, that Massachusetts-based physician must be licensed in Florida and deliver care in compliance with applicable Florida law. Mr. Sherer explained the various exceptions which exist to this regulation, such as the longstanding policy of permitting physicians located outside of Massachusetts to consult with physicians located (and licensed) in Massachusetts, without requiring the consulting physician to obtain a Massachusetts license. For additional details, refer to the meeting presentation on the Task Force's [Meeting Materials webpage](#).

As part of his presentation, Mr. Sherer invited Eric Fish, former General Counsel at the Federation of State Medical Boards, who was instrumental in the development of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (IMLC), to comment on the specific questions related to the IMLC. Mr. Sherer and Mr. Fish clarified that the IMLC does not supersede state law; the IMLC simply creates an expedited pathway for licensure in other jurisdictions. They explained that some states have enacted "shield laws," declining to provide information to authorities in other jurisdictions regarding care which is permitted in the home state but is prohibited in those other jurisdictions.

In response to the presentation, members raised a number of specific questions related to the IMLC, including the applicability of the existing shield law in Massachusetts, which was adopted after the Supreme Court's landmark 2022 decision in *Dobbs* and seeks to protect Massachusetts physicians from inquiries or disciplinary actions taken by other medical boards involving reproductive care. Mr. Fish clarified that states wishing to join the Compact could be able make revisions to the language of their state's legislation adopting the Compact, provided that they are not substantial. Members also discussed the nature of the IMLC, which is solely focused on physicians and is not a reciprocity model like the nursing compact, which is a reciprocity model in which a single license granted through the nursing compact provides nurses with license to practice in multiple states.

In closing, Assistant Secretary Marqusee highlighted the Task Force's Mass.gov webpage (<https://www.mass.gov/telehealth-task-force>), where copies of the meeting materials will be posted for members of the public. She noted that nine additional Task Force meetings have been scheduled over the next ten months, leading up to the 7/1/2026 deadline for submission of the Task Force's report and recommendations.

Vote 1 to adjourn the meeting: Assistant Secretary Marqusee requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Zeidman introduced the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Delmolino and approved by roll-call vote (see detailed record of votes above).

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.

Meeting Materials

1. Interstate Licensure Approaches presentation
2. Open Meeting Law guide