

## CONTACT

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### SUBJECT

Senate Bill 131 Ohio

### MESSAGE

Hello to my colleagues in PAAPT. I am writing to let you know of something that will be going into effect soon. This will only affect a handful of you but you may know other counselors that this could benefit. In January of 2023, Ohio Gov. DeWine signed into law Senate Bill 131. This bill states that Ohio must now start to recognize people who have an out of state license in their profession which includes counselors. Starting December 29th 2023, anyone who has the independent license in their state can now get licensed in Ohio. This could be something that play therapists may be interested in if you are located along the PA/OH border. The only caveat is that OH is one of the few states that require you to take the NCCMHCE. If you have not taken this test you will likely have to take and pass it in order to get Ohio's LPCC, their independent license. However, if I read it correctly, if you have the independent LPC in PA and apply next year you should be eligible for their LPC and then pass the test and you can be licensed in Ohio too. It is known in the counseling community how difficult it is to get licensed in Ohio if you're from out of state. Although I know for most of you that this law won't matter to you but I feel it's worth spreading around for those that you know that may be interested or plan on moving whether they're a play therapist or not. This is just an FYI.

Warmly,

Andrew Rupert, M.Ed., LPC (PA), NCC, NCSC, RPT