

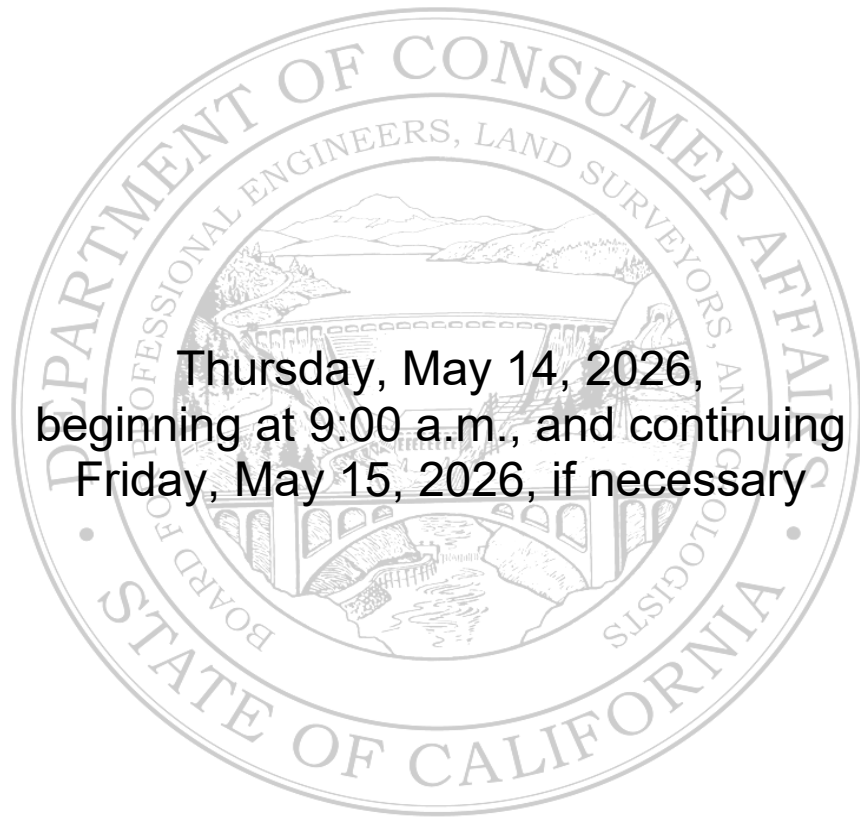


Gavin Newsom, Governor

Meeting of the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists

Board for Professional Engineers,
Land Surveyors, and Geologists

Thursday, May 14, 2026,
beginning at 9:00 a.m., and continuing
Friday, May 15, 2026, if necessary



Department of Consumer Affairs
1747 North Market Blvd., Hearing Room #186
Sacramento, CA 95834 D

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MEETING OF THE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS,
LAND SURVEYORS, AND GEOLOGISTS

BOARD MEETING

MAY 14-15, 2026

Department of Consumer Affairs
1747 North Market Blvd., Hearing Room #186
Sacramento, CA 95834

BOARD MEMBERS: President Guillermo Martinez; Vice-President Frank Ruffino; Fel Amistad; Alireza Asgari; Rossana D'Antonio; Desirea Haggard; Michael Hartley; Betsy Mathieson; Wilfredo Sanchez; Fermin Villegas; Cliff Waldeck; and Christina Wong

- I. **Roll Call to Establish a Quorum** 7
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance** 9
- III. **Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda** 11
NOTE: The Board cannot discuss or take action on any matter raised during this public comment section, except to decide whether to place the matter on the agenda of a future meeting. (Government Code sections 11125, 11125.7(a).) The Board will also allow for public comment during the discussion of each item on the agenda and will allow time for public comment for items not on the agenda at the beginning of both days of the meeting. Please see the last page of this Official Notice and Agenda for additional information regarding public comment.
- IV. **Hearing on the Petition for Early Termination of Probation of Manouchehr Hakhamaneshi** 13
NOTE: This hearing will be held on Thursday, May 14, 2026, beginning at 9:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard. The Board will meet in Closed Session immediately following the Hearing on the Petition for Reinstatement of Revoked License to decide that matter, pursuant to Government Code Section 11126(c)(3).
- V. **Closed Session – The Board will meet in Closed Session to discuss, as needed:** 15
 - A. Deliberate on a Decision(s) to be Reached in a Proceeding(s) Required to be Conducted Pursuant to Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500), as Authorized by Government Code Section 11126(c)(3).
 - B. Confer with, or Receive Advice from, Its Legal Counsel Regarding Pending Litigation Pursuant to Government Code Section 11126(e)(1) and (2)(A), on the following matters:
 - 1. Crownholm et al. v. Moore, et al. No. 24-276, cert. pending (filed Sep. 9, 2024), Supreme Court of the United States, Crownholm, et al. v. Moore, et al. (No. 23-15138) (9th Cir. April 16, 2024)

2.	<u>Hossein Eftekhari v. Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists, Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 25WM000236</u>	
3.	<u>Shahrokh Esmaily-Radvar vs. Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists, Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 25STCP02175</u>	
4.	<u>James MacGregor Renfrew, Jr. vs. Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists, Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 25STCP02233</u>	
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I. Roll Call to Establish a Quorum

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

IV. Hearing on the Petition for Early Termination of Probation of Manouchehr Hakhamaneshi

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 4. James MacGregor Renfrew, Jr. vs. Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists, Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 25STCP02233

VI. Administration

A. Fiscal Year 2025/26 Budget Report

GUIDE TO READING THE REVENUE REPORT AND EXPENDITURE REPORT

Revenues

Fee increase effective January 1, 2021 has had a positive impact on revenues. Total revenue up \$1,276,880 (25%) over prior period.

Current Year Projections
Identifies the revenue amount that BPELSG projects for FY 21-22.

Revenue Category	PRIOR YEAR FY 2020-21 FM 4	CURRENT YEAR FY 2021-22 FM 4	CURRENT YEAR Projections
Delinquent Fees	\$38,696	↑ \$51,464	\$150,076
Other Regulatory Fees	\$32,130	↑ \$39,578	\$102,138
Other Regulatory Licenses & Permits	\$297,960	↑ \$645,747	\$1,743,588
Other Revenue	\$20,822	↓ \$10,486	\$51,328
Renewal Fees	\$3,415,953	↑ \$4,335,166	\$10,269,519
Total	\$3,805,560	↑ \$5,082,440	\$12,316,649

Revenue Category
Provides the name of the line item where our revenues occur.

Arrows
These indicate a change in the current year over prior year. Up/green arrows indicate an increase and down/red arrows indicate a decrease over the prior period.

Current Year
Revenue collected up to FM 4 in October of 2021.

Prior Year
Revenue collected up to FM 4 in October of 2020.

CY 21-22 YTD + Encumbrance
Provides a FM 4 total of YTD Actual and Encumbrance.

Department of Consumer Affairs
Expenditure Projection Report
Fiscal Month: 4
Fiscal Year: 2021 - 2022
Run Date: 12/09/2021

Fiscal Month
Identifies the expenditures up to October 2021
Fiscal Year
Identifies the current year
Run Date
Identifies the date this report was pulled from QBIRT

Governor's Budget
Publication that the Governor presents which identifies the current year authorized expenditures.

PERSONAL SERVICES

Notes	Fiscal Code	PY 20-21 FM 4 YTD + Encumbrance	CY 21-22 FM 4 YTD + Encumbrance	Governor's Budget	Percent of Governor's Budget Spent	Projections to Year End
1	5100 PERMANENT POSITIONS	\$955,435	\$1,077,755	\$3,425,000	31%	\$3,389,367
	5100 TEMPORARY POSITIONS	\$35,155	\$45,403	\$232,000	20%	\$130,000
	5105-5108 PER DIEM, OVERTIME, & LUMP SUM	\$600	\$38,876	\$36,000	108%	\$48,476
	5150 STAFF BENEFITS	\$559,421	\$618,030	\$1,703,000	36%	\$1,812,693
	PERSONAL SERVICES	\$1,550,611	\$1,780,065	\$5,396,000	33%	\$5,380,536

OPERATING EXPENSES & EQUIPMENT

2	5301 GENERAL EXPENSE	\$23,898	\$22,392	\$32,000	70%	\$71,871
3	5302 PRINTING	\$24,766	\$69,808	\$26,000	268%	\$33,966
	5304 COMMUNICATIONS	\$4,452	\$3,384	\$15,000	23%	\$20,777

Object Description
Provides the name of the line item where our expenditures occur.

PY 20-21 YTD + Encumbrance
Provides a FM 4 total of YTD Actual and Encumbrance.

Percent of Governor's Budget spent
Identifies the percentage spent at CY 21-22 FM 4 according to the Governor's Budget.

Projections to Year End
Identifies the expenditure amount that BPELSG projects for FY 21-22.

	OPERATING EXPENSES & EQUIPMENT	\$3,239,095	\$2,474,539	\$6,831,000	36%	\$5,308,996
	OVERALL TOTALS	\$4,789,706	\$4,254,604	\$12,227,000	35%	\$10,689,532

*Does not include additional Architecture Revolving Fund Expenses TBD

SURPLUS/(DEFICIT): 13%

Surplus/(Deficit)
Identifies if we have higher revenue and lower expenses (Surplus) or higher expenses and lower revenue (Deficit). This percentage is calculated using (Governor's Budget-Projections to Year End)/ Governor's Budget.

FINANCIAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2025-26 FISCAL MONTH 9 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Revenues

Total revenue is up \$766,017 (6%) over Prior Year 2023-24. Current Fiscal Year 2025-26 is a high volume year for renewals therefore we are comparing it to Prior Year 2023-24 due to it also being a high volume year for renewals.

Revenue Category	PRIOR YEAR FY 2023-24 FM 9	PRIOR YEAR FY 2024-25 FM 9	CURRENT YEAR FY 2025-26 FM 9	CURRENT YEAR FY 2025-26 PROJECTION
Delinquent Fees	\$94,074	\$61,635	\$ 49,261	\$ 81,151
Other Regulatory Fees	\$53,005	\$59,068	\$106,542	\$90,609
Other Regulatory Licenses & Permits	\$1,703,758	\$1,589,951	\$ 1,717,156	\$2,243,203
Other Revenue	\$130,868	\$ 161,338	\$159,336	\$26,771
Renewal Fees	\$9,739,400	\$9,066,276	\$9,799,488	\$10,308,825
Total	\$11,065,766	\$ 10,938,268	\$11,831,783	\$12,750,559

Total Reimbursements as of FM 9 totaled \$143,132 including \$53,410 in Fingerprint Reports, \$175 in Reimbursements-Private Sectors, and \$89,547 in US Cost Recovery. Fingerprint Report expenses are included in the General Expense category.

Department of Consumer Affairs

Expenditure Projection Report

Fiscal Month: 9

Fiscal Year: 2025 - 2026

Run Date: 04/14/2026

PERSONAL SERVICES

Notes	Fiscal Code	PY 24-25 FM 9 YTD + Encumbrance	CY 25-26 FM 9 YTD + Encumbrance	Governor's Budget	Percent of Governor's Budget Spent	Projections to Year End
1	5100 PERMANENT POSITIONS	\$2,753,980	\$2,780,137	\$3,684,000	75%	\$3,748,638
	5100 TEMPORARY POSITIONS	\$0	\$0	\$232,000	0%	\$1,000
	5105-5108 PER DIEM, OVERTIME, & LUMP SUM	\$9,200	\$8,500	\$37,000	23%	\$14,200
	5150 STAFF BENEFITS	\$1,543,014	\$1,666,304	\$1,989,000	84%	\$2,249,183
	PERSONAL SERVICES	\$4,306,194	\$4,454,941	\$5,942,000	75%	\$6,013,021

OPERATING EXPENSES & EQUIPMENT

2	5301 GENERAL EXPENSE	\$53,802	\$49,250	\$56,000	88%	\$88,238
	5302 PRINTING	\$77,873	\$99,485	\$46,000	216%	\$109,300
	5304 COMMUNICATIONS	\$4,855	\$6,183	\$35,000	18%	\$20,700
	5306 POSTAGE	\$25,978	\$26,406	\$58,000	46%	\$27,300
	53202-204 IN STATE TRAVEL	\$21,170	\$36,101	\$90,000	40%	\$42,940
	53206-208 OUT OF STATE TRAVEL	\$0	\$2,205	\$0	0%	\$2,500
	5322 TRAINING	\$2,000	\$350	\$15,000	2%	\$500
3	5324 FACILITIES	\$475,692	\$485,199	\$377,000	129%	\$499,000
4	53402-53403 C/P SERVICES (INTERNAL)	\$497,819	\$490,503	\$1,404,000	35%	\$776,867
5	53404-53405 C/P SERVICES (EXTERNAL)	\$2,097,979	\$2,273,433	\$3,112,000	73%	\$2,623,800
6	5342 DEPARTMENT PRORATA	\$1,750,834	\$1,728,000	\$2,324,000	74%	\$2,324,000
7	5342 DEPARTMENTAL SERVICES	\$16,382	\$16,164	\$25,000	65%	\$31,110
	5344 CONSOLIDATED DATA CENTERS	\$0	\$0	\$22,000	0%	\$25,100
	5346 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	\$123,514	\$3,322	\$94,000	4%	\$326,450
	5362-5368 EQUIPMENT	\$25,337	\$135,243	\$0	0%	\$182,100
	5390 OTHER ITEMS OF EXPENSE	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	0%	\$0
	54 SPECIAL ITEMS OF EXPENSE	\$1,620	\$2,776	\$0	0%	\$4,000
	OPERATING EXPENSES & EQUIPMENT	\$5,174,856	\$5,354,619	\$7,661,000	70%	\$7,083,905
	TOTALS	\$9,481,049	\$9,809,560	\$13,603,000	72%	\$13,096,926
8	4840-4850 REIMBURSEMENTS					\$170,000
	OVERALL TOTALS					\$12,926,926

SURPLUS/(DEFICIT):

5%

**0770 Professional Engineer's, Land Surveyor's and Geologist's Fund Analysis of Fund Condition
(Dollars in Thousands)**

Prepared 4/14/2026

PY 2024-25 Actuals and CY 2025-26 FM 9 Projections

	Actual 2024-25	CY 2025-26	BY 2026-27	BY +1 2027-28
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ 3,267	\$ 3,680	\$ 3,208	\$ 5,581
Prior Year Adjustment	\$ 432	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Adjusted Beginning Balance	\$ 3,699	\$ 3,680	\$ 3,208	\$ 5,581
 REVENUES, TRANSFERS AND OTHER ADJUSTMENTS				
Revenues				
4121200 - Delinquent fees	\$ 80	\$ 81	\$ 113	\$ 111
4127400 - Renewal fees	\$ 9,302	\$ 10,309	\$ 13,282	\$ 12,918
4129200 - Other regulatory fees	\$ 104	\$ 91	\$ 97	\$ 103
4129400 - Other regulatory licenses and permits	\$ 2,197	\$ 2,243	\$ 3,110	\$ 3,109
4163000 - Income from surplus money investments	\$ 300	\$ 506	\$ 506	\$ 506
4171400 - Escheat of unclaimed checks and warrants	\$ 43	\$ 12	\$ 12	\$ 12
 Totals, Revenues	\$ 12,026	\$ 13,242	\$ 17,120	\$ 16,760
 TOTALS, REVENUES, TRANSFERS AND OTHER ADJUSTMENTS	\$ 12,026	\$ 13,242	\$ 17,120	\$ 16,760
 TOTAL RESOURCES	\$ 15,725	\$ 16,922	\$ 20,328	\$ 22,341
 Expenditures:				
1111 Department of Consumer Affairs Regulatory Boards, Bureaus, Divisions (State Operations)	\$ 11,508	\$ 12,927	\$ 13,525	\$ 13,931
9892 Supplemental Pension Payments (State Operations)	\$ 58	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
9900 Statewide General Administrative Expenditures (Pro Rata) (State Operations)	\$ 479	\$ 787	\$ 1,222	\$ 1,222
TOTALS, EXPENDITURES AND EXPENDITURE ADJUSTMENTS	\$ 12,045	\$ 13,714	\$ 14,747	\$ 15,153
 FUND BALANCE				
Reserve for economic uncertainties	\$ 3,680	\$ 3,208	\$ 5,581	\$ 7,188
 Months in Reserve	3.2	2.6	4.4	5.7

NOTES:

Assumes workload and revenue projections are realized in CY and BY.
Expenditure growth projected at 3% beginning in BY +1.

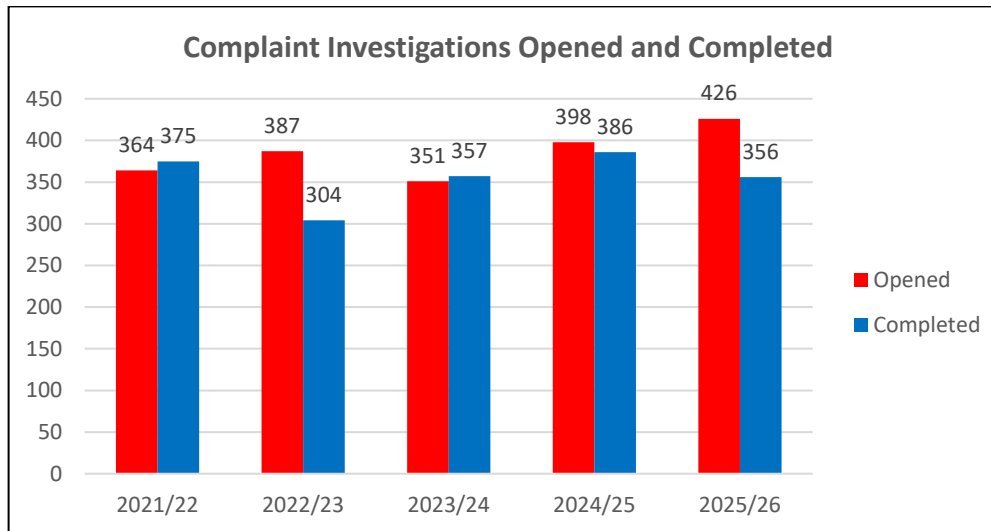
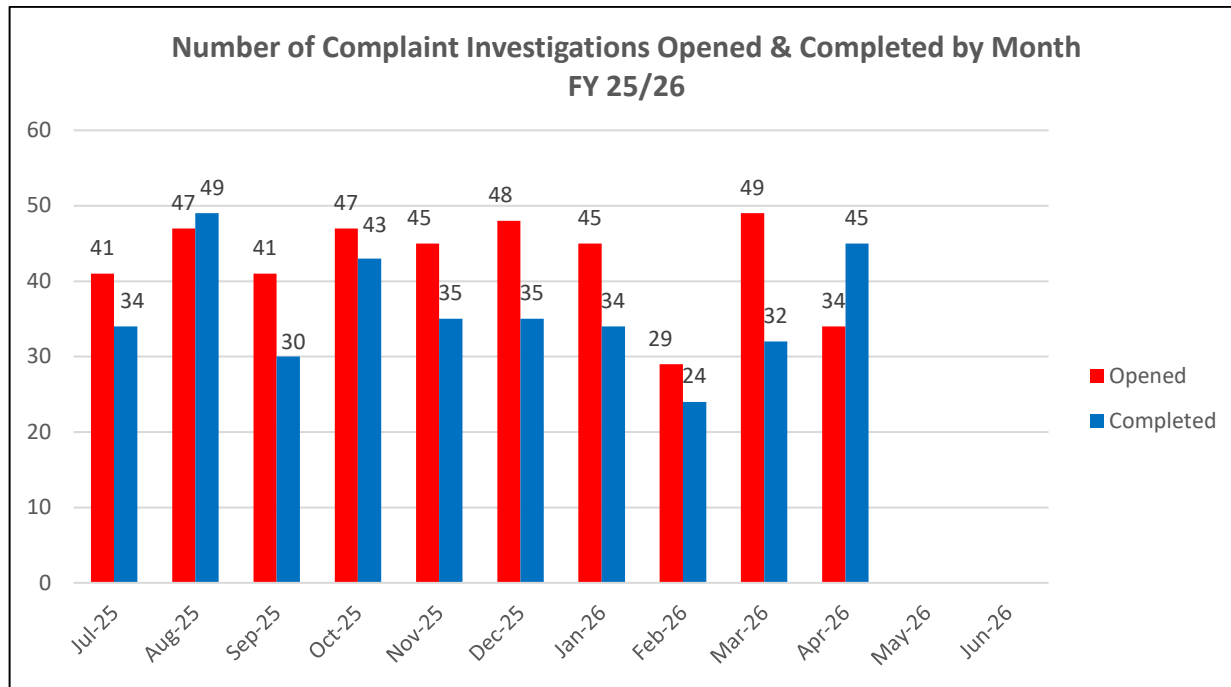
Expenditure Report Notes

- 1 Salary & Wages (Staff)** - The projected expenditures for salaries and wages is due to the Board being almost fully staffed, and includes merit salary adjustments and the bargaining unit agreements effective July 1, 2025.
- 2 General Expenses** - Includes Membership and Subscription Fees, Freight and Drayage, Office Equipment - Maintenance, Office Supplies, and DOJ and FBI fees for background checks which are reimbursed.
- 3 Facilities Operations** - Includes facilities maintenance, facilities operations, janitorial Services, rent and leases, exam rental sites, and security.
- 4 C&P Services Interdepartmental** - Includes all contract services with other state agencies for examination services (Dept. of Conservation). This line item also now includes enforcement expenses for the Attorney General and the Office of Administrative Hearings.
- 5 C&P Services External** - Includes all external contracts (examination development, expert consultant agreements, business modernization contracts, credit card processing, evidence and witness fees, and court reporter services).
- 6 DCA Pro Rata** - Includes distributed costs of programmatic and administrative services from DCA.
- 7 Departmental Services (Interagency Services)** - Includes pay-per-services billed through the Department of General Services.
- 8 Reimbursements** - Includes Reimbursements-Private Sectors (contracted with Guam to provide California Civil Seismic Principles Exams on the same dates the exam is administered in California by the Guam Registration Board at the rate of \$175 per examination that are administered to applicants), Fingerprint Reports, Cost Recovery, and US DOI Civil Case.

VII. Enforcement

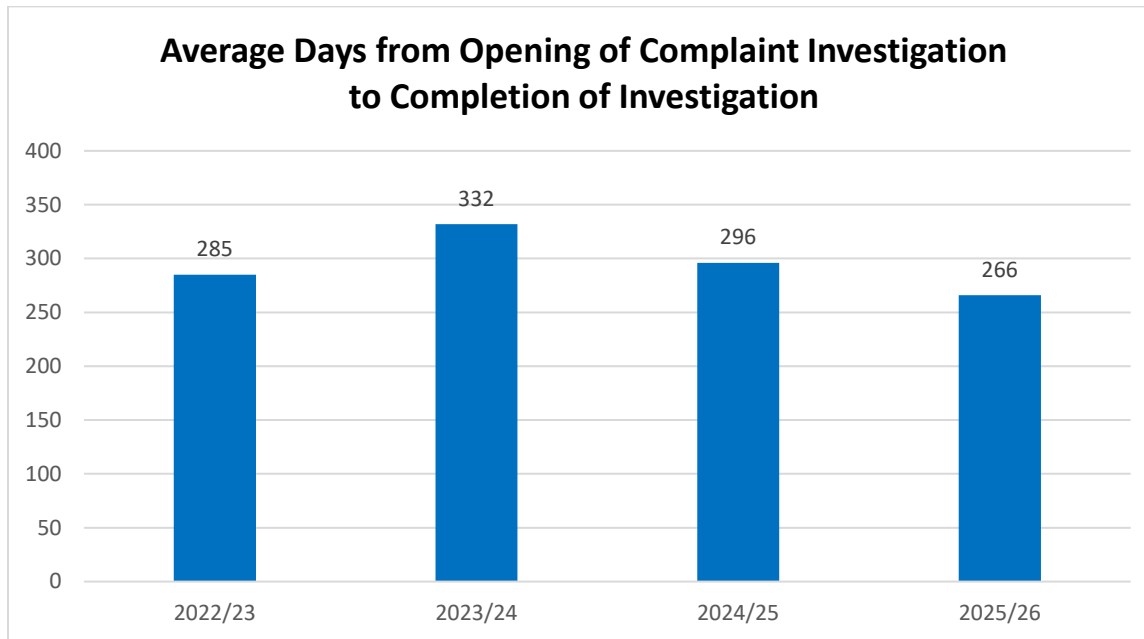
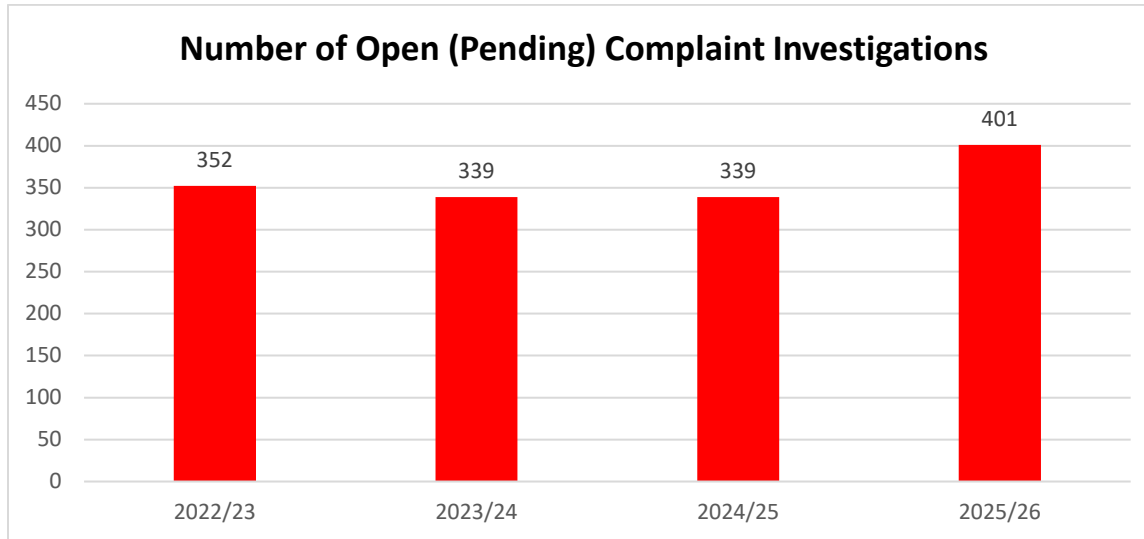
- A. Enforcement Statistical Reports
 - 1. Fiscal Year 2025/26 Update

Complaint Investigation Phase



NOTE: FY25/26 statistics are through April 30, 2026

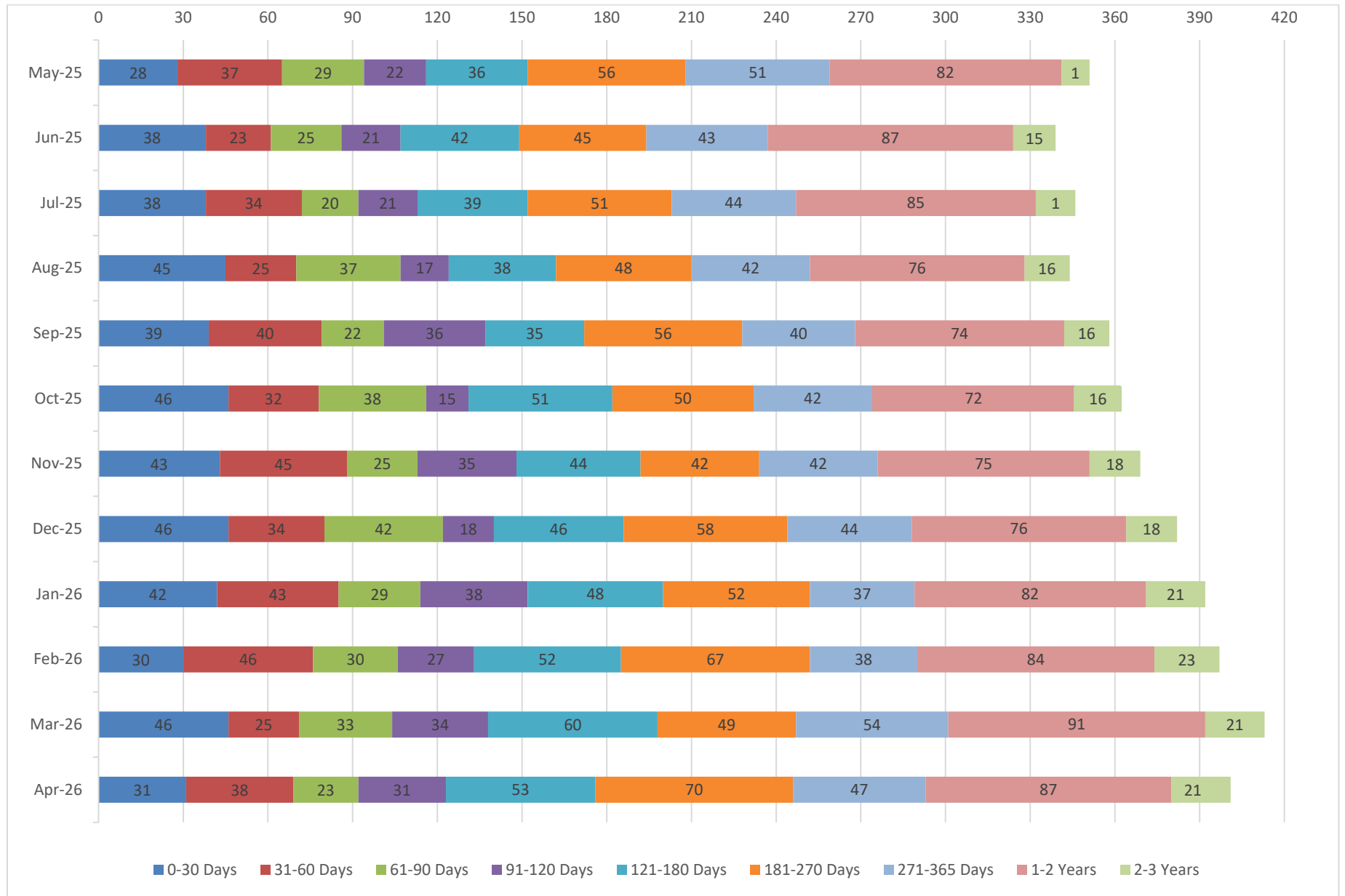
Complaint Investigation Phase



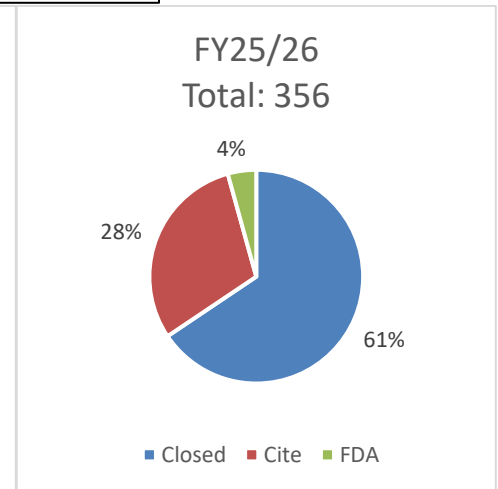
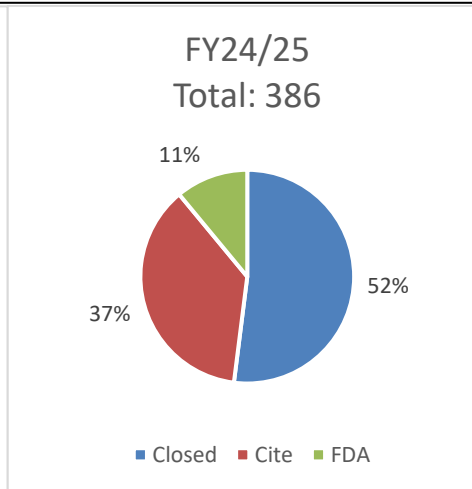
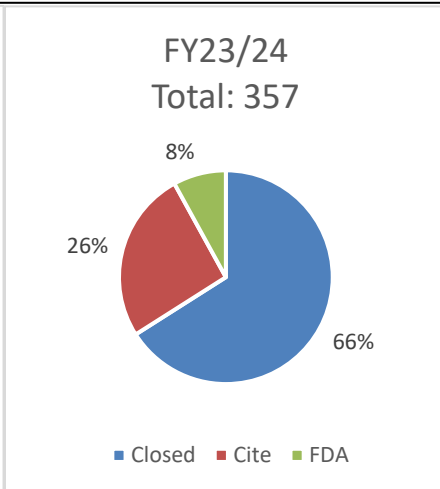
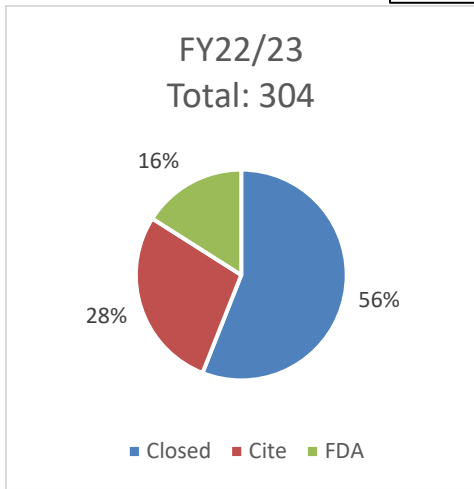
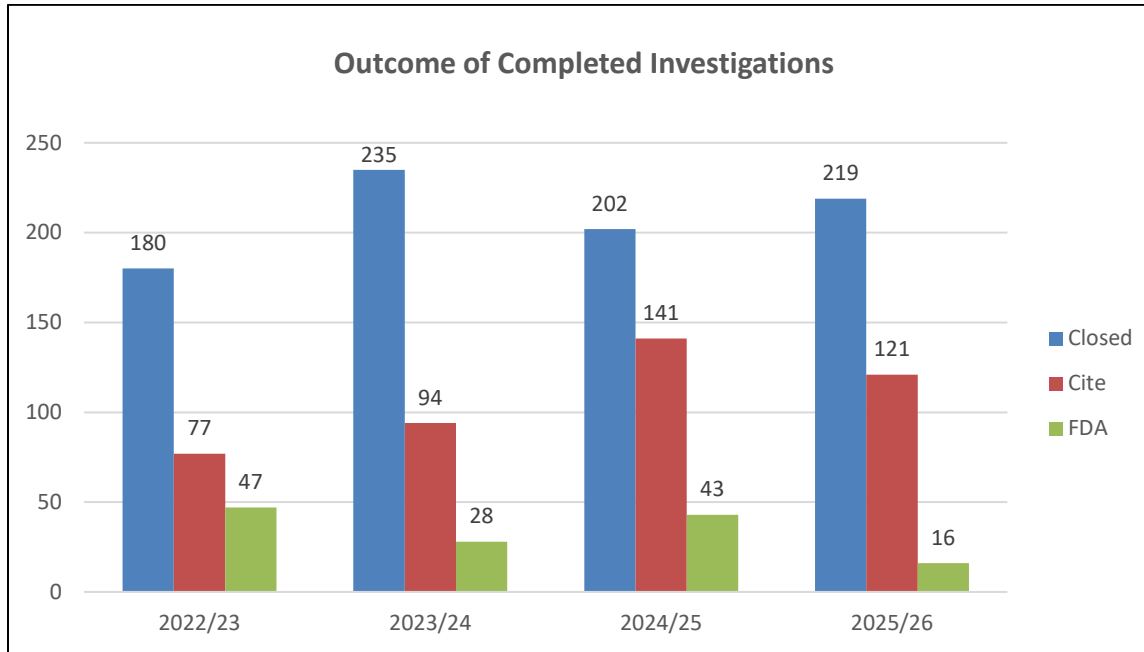
NOTE: FY25/26 statistics are through April 30, 2026

Complaint Investigation Phase

Aging of Open (Pending) Complaint Investigation Cases – 12-Month Cycle



Complaint Investigation Phase



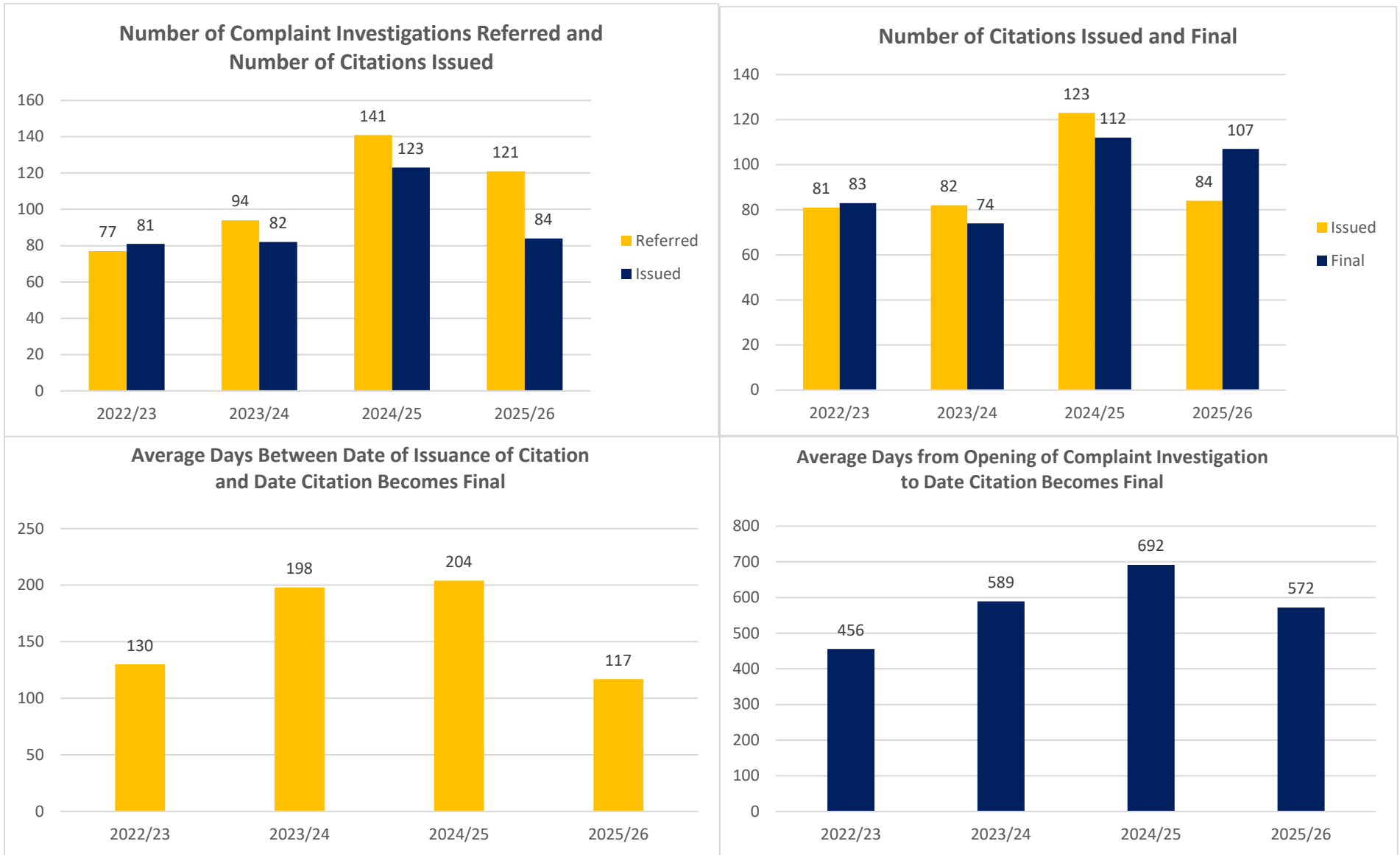
NOTE: FY25/26 statistics are through April 30, 2026

Closed = Closed with No Action Taken, includes No Violation/Insufficient Evidence; Compliance Obtained; Warning Letter; Other Reason for Closing Without Action (e.g., subject deceased); Resolved After Initial Notification; Referred to District Attorney with Request to File Criminal Charges; and Mediated.

Cite = Referred for Issuance of Citation

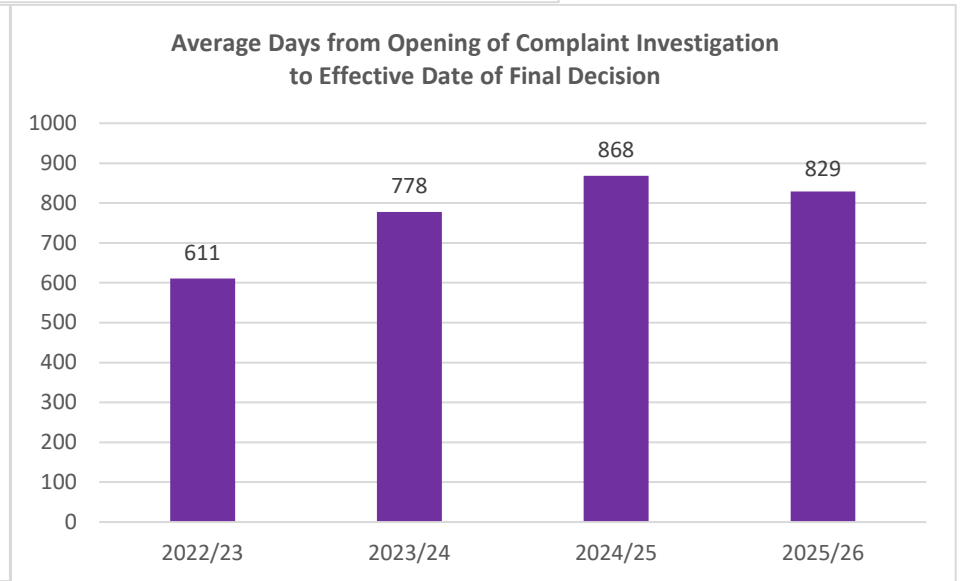
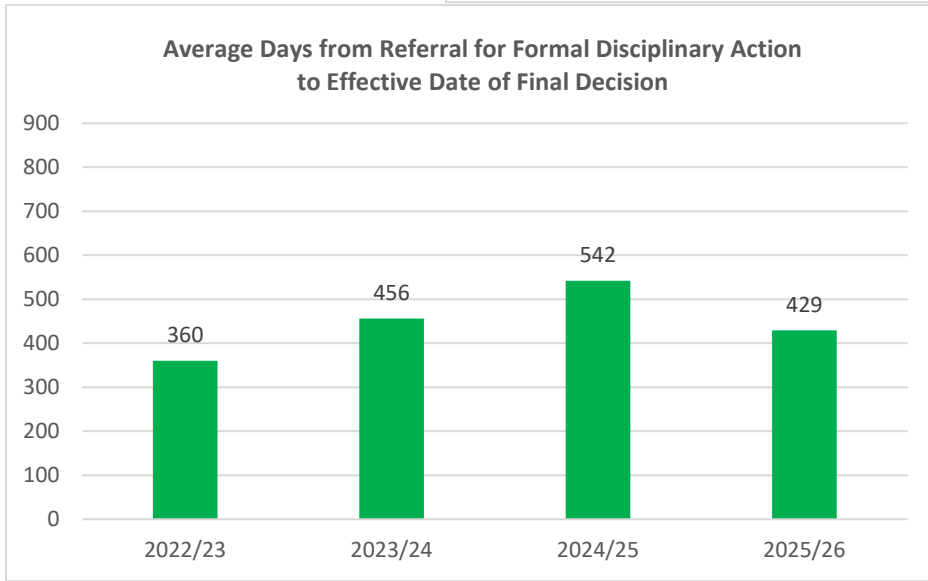
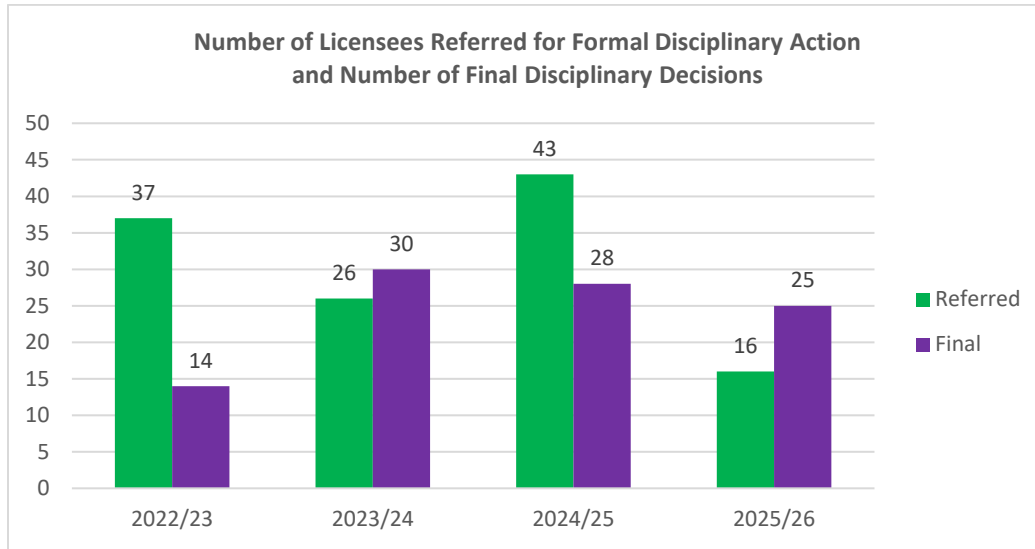
FDA = Referred for Formal Disciplinary Action

Citations (Informal Enforcement Actions)



NOTE: FY25/26 statistics are through April 30, 2026

Formal Disciplinary Actions Against Licensees

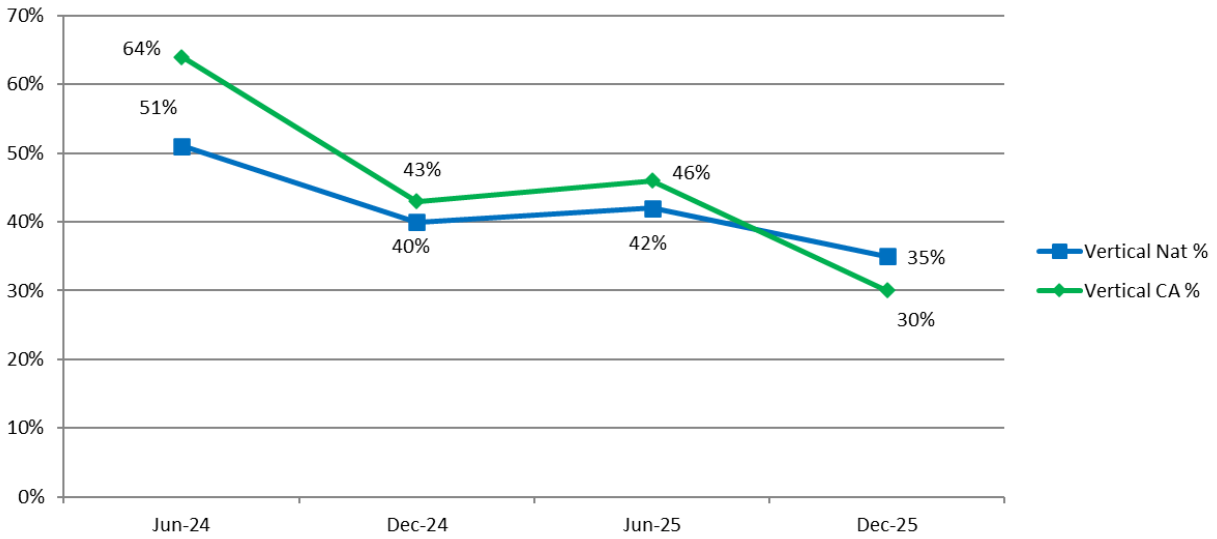


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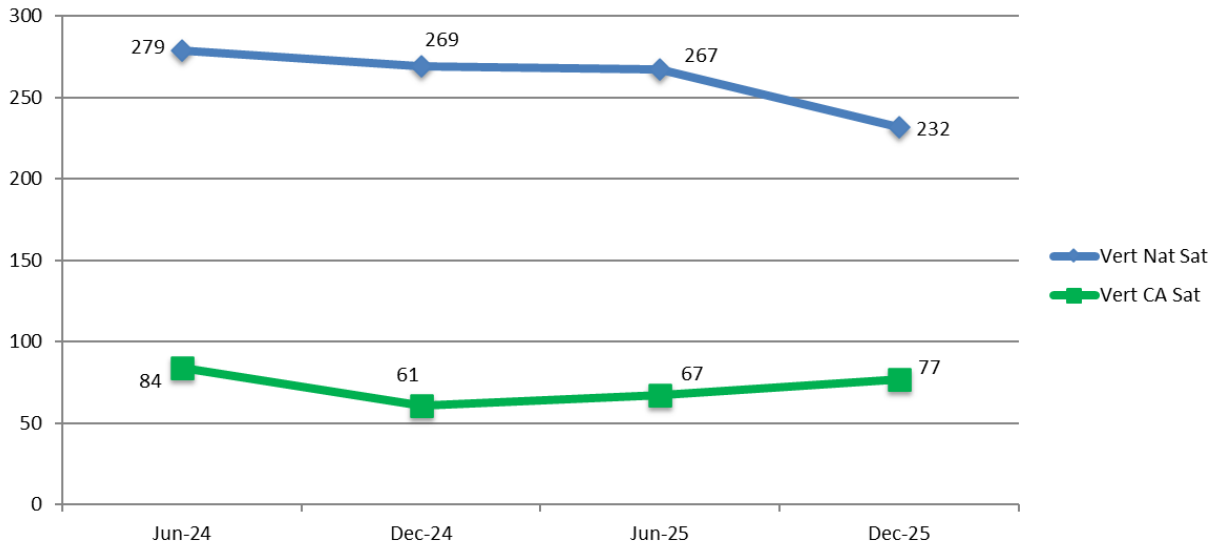
VIII. Exams/Licensing

A. Examination/Licensing Updates

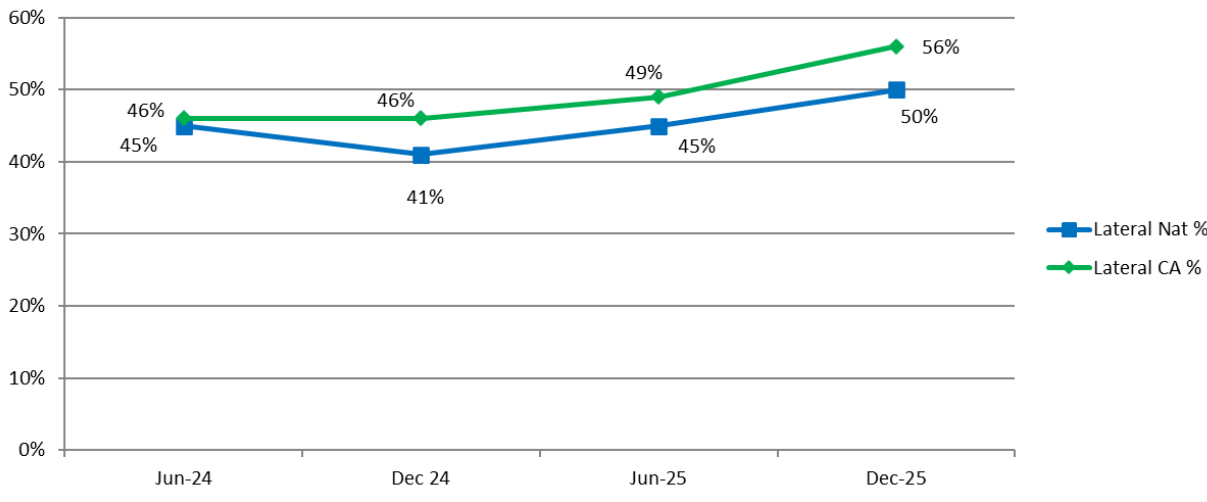
PE-SE Building (Vertical Breadth) Pass Results California vs. National Average



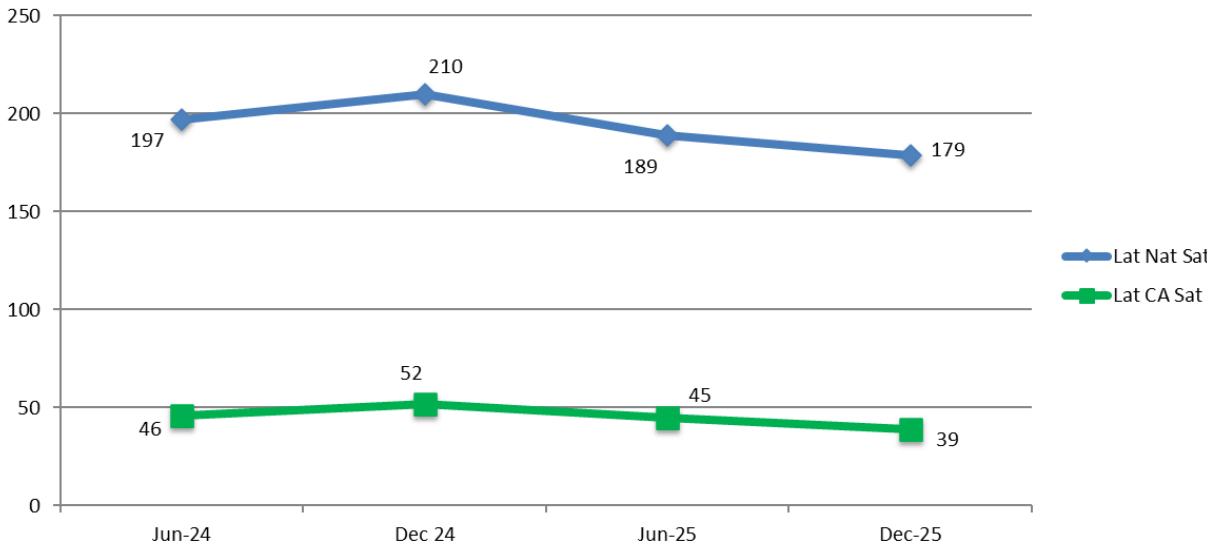
PE-SE Building (Vertical Breadth) Number of Exams Administered



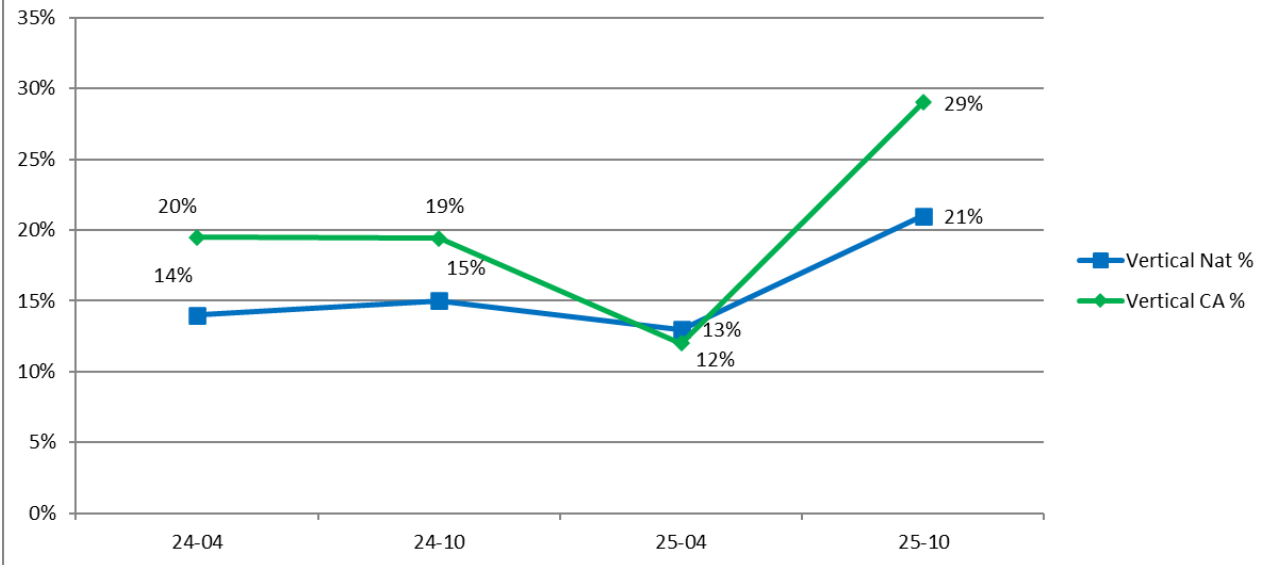
PE-SE Building (Lateral Breadth) Pass Results California vs. National Average



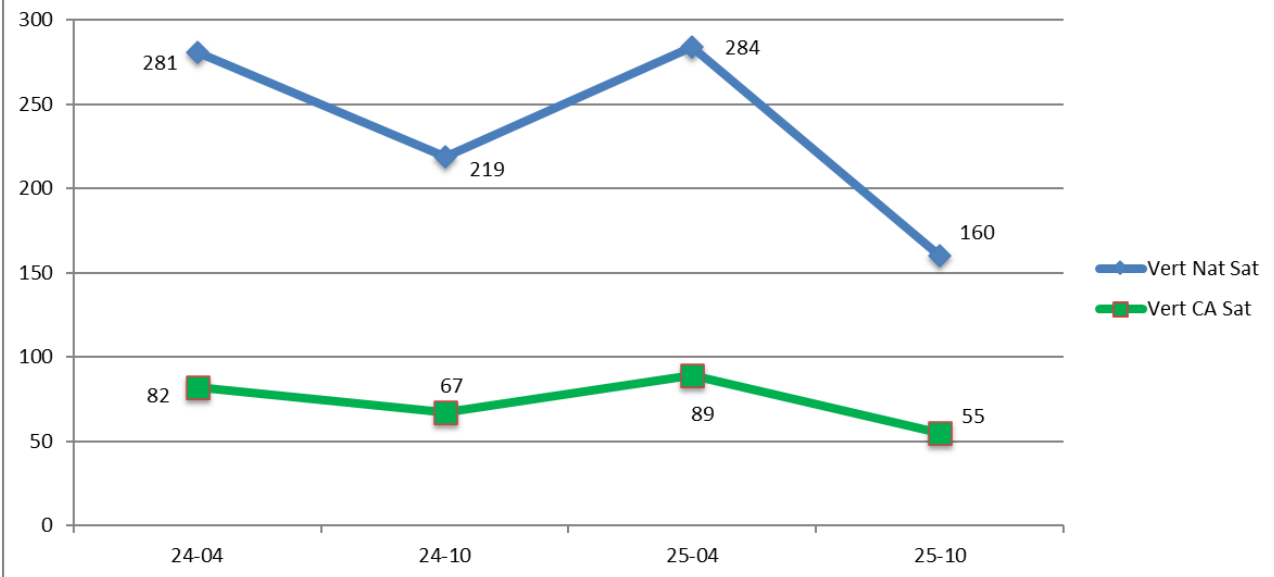
PE-SE Building (Lateral Breadth) Number of Exams Administered



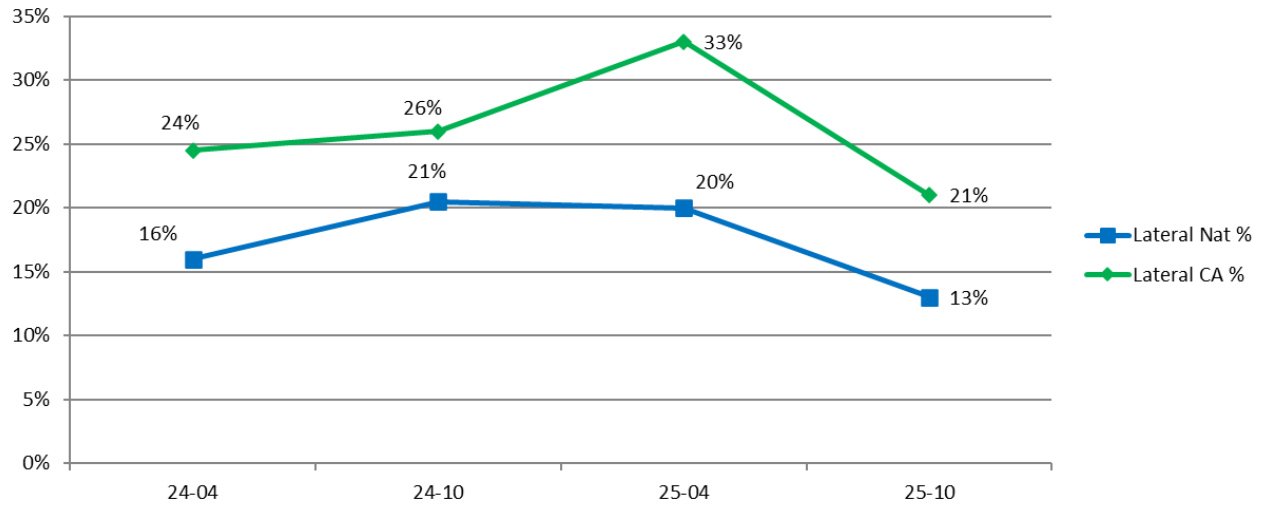
PE-SE Building (Vertical Depth) Pass Results California vs. National Average



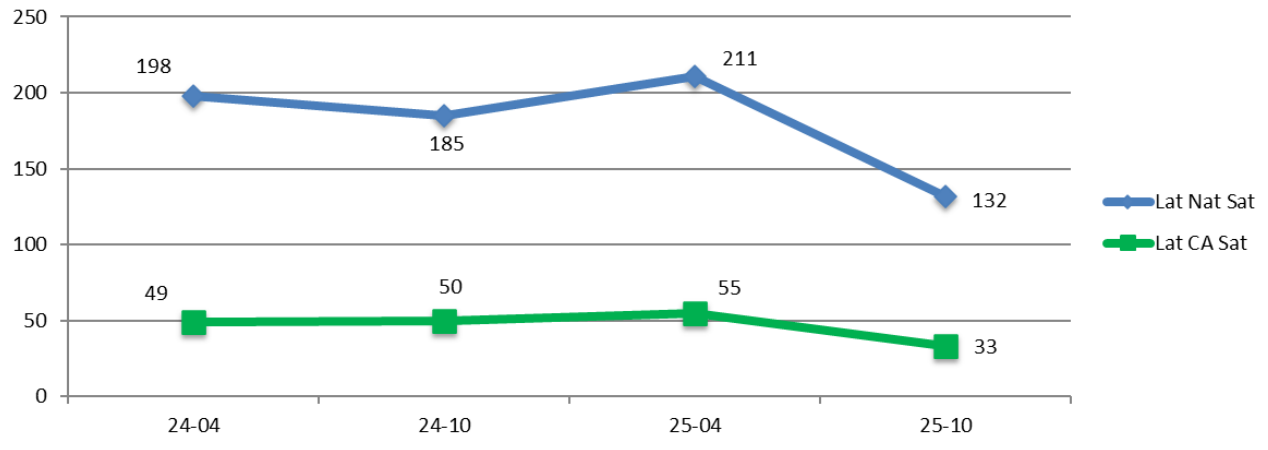
PE-SE Building (Vertical Depth) Number of Exams Administered



PE-SE Building (Lateral Depth) Pass Results California vs. National Average



PE-SE Building (Lateral Depth) Number of Exams Administered



IX. Legislation

- A. 2026 Legislative Calendar
- B. Discussion of Legislation for 2026 (**Possible Action**)
 - 1. Assembly Bill (AB) 1693 – Accelerated retailer building plan approval
 - 2. AB 1775 – Veterans
 - 3. AB 1796 – Licensed Professional Interior Designer Act
 - 4. AB 1933 – Land surveyors: records of survey
 - 5. AB 1999 – Veterinary Medicine
 - 6. AB 2435 – Land Surveyors
 - 7. AB 2287 – Contractors: disciplinary action
 - 8. Senate Bill (SB) 1011 – Energy: Utility Infrastructure AI Safety, Oversight, and Workforce Protection Act
 - 9. SB 1248 – State agencies: automated decision systems

DEADLINES

JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

- Jan. 1** Statutes take effect (Art. IV, Sec. 8(c)).
- Jan. 5** **Legislature reconvenes** (J.R. 51(a)(4)).
- Jan. 10** Budget must be submitted by Governor (Art. IV, Sec. 12 (a)).
- Jan. 16** Last day for **policy committees** to hear and report to fiscal committees **fiscal bills** introduced in their house in the odd-numbered year (J.R. 61(b)(1)).
- Jan. 19** Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.
- Jan. 23** Last day for any committee to hear and report to the **Floor** bills introduced in that house in the odd-numbered year (J.R. 61(b)(2)). Last day to **submit bill requests** to the Office of Legislative Counsel.
- Jan. 31** Last day for each house to **pass bills introduced** in that house in the odd-numbered year (Art. IV, Sec. 10(c)), (J.R. 61(b)(3)).

FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

- Feb. 16** Presidents' Day.
- Feb. 20** Last day for bills to be **introduced** (J.R. 61(b)(4)), (J.R. 54(a)).

MARCH						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

- Mar. 26** **Spring Recess** begins upon adjournment (J.R. 51(b)(1)).
- Mar. 30** Cesar Chavez Day observed.

APRIL						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
			1	2	3	4
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26	27	28	29	30		

- Apr. 6** Legislature reconvenes from **Spring Recess** (J.R. 51(b)(1)).
- Apr. 24** Last day for **policy committees** to hear and report to fiscal committees **fiscal bills** introduced in their house (J.R. 61(b)(5)).

MAY						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
					1	2
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

- May 1** Last day for **policy committees** to hear and report to the Floor **non-fiscal bills** introduced in their house (J.R. 61(b)(6)).
- May 8** Last day for **policy committees** to meet prior to June 1 (J.R. 61(b)(7)).
- May 15** Last day for **fiscal committees** to hear and report to the Floor bills introduced in their house (J.R. 61 (b)(8)). Last day for **fiscal committees** to meet prior to June 1 (J.R. 61 (b)(9)).
- May 25** Memorial Day.
- May 26 – 29 Floor Session only.** No committees, other than conference or Rules committees, may meet for any purpose (J.R. 61(b)(10)).
- May 29** Last day for each house to pass bills introduced in that house (J.R. 61(b)(11)).

*Holiday schedule subject to Senate Rules committee approval.

JUNE						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

JULY						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
			1	2	3	4
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

AUGUST						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June 1 Committee meetings may resume (J.R. 61(b)(12)).

June 15 Budget Bill must be passed by **midnight** (Art. IV, Sec. 12(c)(3)).

June 25 Last day for a legislative measure to qualify for the Nov. 3 General Election ballot (Elections Code Sec. 9040).

July 2 Last day for **policy committees** to meet and report bills (J.R. 61(b)(13)). **Summer Recess** begins upon adjournment of session, provided Budget Bill has passed (J.R. 51(b)(2)).

July 3 Independence Day observed.

Aug. 3 Legislature reconvenes from **Summer Recess** (J.R. 51(b)(2)).

Aug. 14 Last day for **fiscal committees** to meet and report bills to the Floor (J.R. 61(b)(14)).

Aug. 17 – 31 Floor Session only. No committee, other than conference and Rules committees, may meet for any purpose (J.R. 61(b)(15)).

Aug. 21 Last day to **amend** on the Floor (J.R. 61(b)(16)).

Aug. 31 Last day for **each house to pass bills** (Art. IV, Sec. 10(c)), (J.R. 61(b)(17)). **Final recess** begins upon adjournment. (J.R. 51(b)(3)).

*Holiday schedule subject to Senate Rules committee approval.

IMPORTANT DATES OCCURRING DURING FINAL RECESS

2026

Sept. 30 Last day for Governor to sign or veto bills passed by the Legislature before Sept. 1 and in the Governor’s possession on or after Sept. 1 (Art. IV, Sec. 10(b)(2)).

Nov. 3 General Election.

Nov. 30 Adjournment *sine die* at midnight (Art. IV, Sec. 3(a)).

Dec. 7 12 Noon convening of the 2027-28 Regular Session (Art. IV, Sec. 3(a)).

2027

Jan. 1 Statutes take effect (Art. IV, Sec. 8(c)).

AB 1693 (Zbur-D and Co-Authors)
Accelerated retailer building plan approval; tenant improvements

Status/History: 4/21/26 – Passed on Business and Professions and referred to Appropriations Committee

Location: 4/21/26 – Assembly Appropriations Committee

Introduced: 2/3/2026

Board Position: 3/5/26 - Watch

Board Staff Analysis: 4/24/26

Bill Summary: Existing law, the California Building Standards Law, establishes the California Building Standards Commission within the Department of General Services. Existing law requires the commission to approve and adopt building standards and to codify those standards in the California Building Standards Code. Existing law authorizes local governments to enact ordinances or regulations that make building standards amendments to the California Building Standards Code, as specified. Existing law establishes a streamlined approval process for a local permit for a tenant improvement related to a restaurant, as defined.

Existing law requires a local building department or permitting department, upon the request and at the expense of the permit applicant, to allow a qualified professional certifier, defined as a licensed architect or engineer who meets certain requirements, to certify that the plans and specifications of the tenant improvement comply with applicable building, health, and safety codes, as specified. Existing law makes qualified professional certifiers subject to certain additional penalties for false statements or willful noncompliance with these provisions, and would make qualified professional certifiers liable for any damages arising from negligent plan review.

This bill would establish a similar streamlined approval process for a local permit for a tenant improvement relating to a retailer, as defined.

Affected Laws: An act to amend Business and Professions Code section 6775 and add Section 66350-66350.4 to Government Code.

Staff Comment: AB 671 amended Business and Professions Code section 6775, effective January 1, 2026, providing that making a false statement as a qualified certifier in submitting a certificate is grounds for disciplinary action against the licensee. This bill would create a requirement for local public permitting agencies to streamline the building permit process for retailers as well, and it would amend Section 6775 accordingly.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends the Board continue to take a Watch position on AB 1693 as introduced on February 3, 2026.

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1693

Introduced by Assembly Member Zbur
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Alanis, Mark González, Solache,
Wallis, and Wicks)

February 3, 2026

An act to amend Sections 5886.5 and 6775 of the Business and Professions Code, and to add Chapter 15 (commencing with Section 66350) to Division 1 of Title 7 of the Government Code, relating to retailers.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1693, as introduced, Zbur. Accelerated retailer building plan approval: tenant improvements.

Existing law, the California Building Standards Law, establishes the California Building Standards Commission within the Department of General Services. Existing law requires the commission to approve and adopt building standards and to codify those standards in the California Building Standards Code. Existing law authorizes local governments to enact ordinances or regulations that make building standards amendments to the California Building Standards Code, as specified. Existing law establishes a streamlined approval process for a local permit for a tenant improvement related to a restaurant, as defined.

This bill would establish a similar streamlined approval process for a local permit for a tenant improvement relating to a retailer, as defined. In this regard, the bill would require a local building department, upon the request and at the expense of the permit applicant, to allow a qualified professional certifier, defined as a licensed architect or engineer who meets certain requirements, to certify that the plans and

specifications of the tenant improvement comply with all applicable building, health, and safety codes, as specified. The bill would require a qualified professional certifier, or the applicant, as applicable, to prepare certain affidavits related to the tenant improvement under penalty of perjury. The bill would require the local building department to approve or deny the permit application within 20 business days of receiving a complete application and would deem the plan approved for permitting purposes if the local building department does not approve or deny the application within that timeframe. The bill would also authorize the applicant to resubmit corrected plans addressing the deficiencies identified in the initial denial, would limit the local building department's review of each subsequent resubmission to the deficiencies identified in the initial denial, and would require the local building department to approve or deny each subsequent resubmission within 10 business days of receipt. The bill would require each local building department to conduct audits of tenant improvements submitted for certification, as specified. The bill would authorize a city or county to adopt additional qualifications or requirements for qualified professional certifiers, including penalties or reasonable administrative fines for certain actions. The bill would make qualified professional certifiers liable for any damages arising from negligent plan review. The bill would also require the applicant to indemnify the local agency from any property damage or personal injury arising from construction permitted under the above-described provisions.

Existing law establishes the California Architects Board and the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists to administer the licensure and regulation of architects and engineers, respectively. Existing law specifies grounds for disciplinary action by the boards.

This bill would deem making a false statement in a certification described above to be grounds for disciplinary action against a licensee who serves as a qualified professional certifier.

Existing law, the Government Claims Act, establishes the liability and immunity of a public entity for its acts or omissions that cause harm to persons. Where a public entity is under a mandatory duty imposed by an enactment that is designed to protect against the risk of a particular kind of injury, the act makes the public entity liable for an injury of that kind proximately caused by its failure to discharge the duty unless the public entity establishes that it exercised reasonable diligence to discharge the duty.

This bill, notwithstanding the above-described liability of a public entity for failure to discharge certain mandatory duties, would provide that a public entity or public employee is not liable for an injury caused by their discretionary or ministerial acts or omissions relating to the issuance or denial of a permit pursuant to the bill’s provisions.

Existing law, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), requires a lead agency, as defined, to prepare, or cause to be prepared, and certify the completion of, an environmental impact report on a project that it proposes to carry out or approve that may have a significant effect on the environment or to adopt a negative declaration if it finds that the project will not have that effect. CEQA does not apply to the approval of ministerial projects.

To the extent that the streamlined, ministerial review processes established by the bill would apply to final, discretionary approval of a tenant improvement, the bill would exempt those projects from CEQA.

This bill would also make related findings and declarations.

The bill would include findings that changes proposed by this bill address a matter of statewide concern rather than a municipal affair and, therefore, apply to all cities, including charter cities.

By adding to the duties of local officials with respect to the review and approval of tenant improvements for retailers, and by expanding the scope of various crimes related to these provisions, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for specified reasons.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 5586.5 of the Business and Professions
2 Code is amended to read:
3 5586.5. The fact that the holder of a license who serves as a
4 qualified professional certifier, as defined in ~~Section~~ *Sections*
5 66345.1 or 66350.1 of the Government Code, makes any false
6 statement in a certification submission pursuant to Chapter 14
7 (commencing with Section 66345) or Chapter 15 (commencing

1 *with Section 66350*) of Division 1 of Title 7 of the Government
2 Code constitutes grounds for disciplinary action.

3 SEC. 2. Section 6775 of the Business and Professions Code is
4 amended to read:

5 6775. The board may, upon its own initiative or upon the
6 receipt of a complaint, investigate the actions of any professional
7 engineer licensed under this chapter and make findings thereon.

8 By a majority vote, the board may publicly reprove, suspend for
9 a period not to exceed two years, or revoke the certificate of any
10 professional engineer licensed under this chapter on any of the
11 following grounds:

12 (a) Any conviction of a crime substantially related to the
13 qualifications, functions, and duties of a licensed professional
14 engineer, in which case the certified record of conviction shall be
15 conclusive evidence thereof.

16 (b) Any deceit, misrepresentation, or fraud in their practice.

17 (c) Any negligence or incompetence in their practice.

18 (d) A breach or violation of a contract to provide professional
19 engineering services.

20 (e) Any fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation in obtaining their
21 certificate as a professional engineer.

22 (f) Aiding or abetting any person in the violation of any
23 provision of this chapter or any regulation adopted by the board
24 pursuant to this chapter.

25 (g) For a licensee who serves as a qualified professional certifier,
26 as defined in ~~Section~~ *Sections 66345.1 or 66350.1* of the
27 Government Code, making any false statement in a certification
28 submission pursuant to Chapter 14 (commencing with Section
29 66345) or Chapter 15 (commencing with Section 66350) of
30 Division 1 of Title 7 of the Government Code.

31 (h) A violation in the course of the practice of professional
32 engineering of a rule or regulation of unprofessional conduct
33 adopted by the board.

34 (i) A violation of any provision of this chapter or any other law
35 relating to or involving the practice of professional engineering.

36 SEC. 3. Chapter 15 (commencing with Section 66350) is added
37 to Division 1 of Title 7 of the Government Code, to read:

1 CHAPTER 15. ACCELERATED RETAILER BUILDING PLAN
2 APPROVAL
3

4 66350. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

5 (a) Retailers, particularly independent and family-owned
6 retailers, are essential to California’s economic growth, support
7 jobs for workers, and serve as real-world, in-person gathering
8 points in communities.

9 (b) Family-owned retailers serve as business, cultural, and
10 economic anchors in their communities, preserving and sharing
11 diverse offerings while also creating spaces for community
12 gatherings and connections.

13 (c) The retail industry is one of California’s largest small
14 business employers, providing jobs, career advancement
15 opportunities, and pathways to business ownership for new and
16 immigrant entrepreneurs and historically underserved communities.

17 (d) California’s retail sector is a vital component of the state’s
18 economy and tourism industry, generating substantial economic
19 activity in communities throughout the state.

20 (e) The retail industry directly employs over 3,000,000
21 Californians across over 500,000 retail establishments, bolstering
22 economies of local communities throughout the state.

23 (f) Delays in building plan review processes can create
24 significant economic hardship for employers in the retail sector.

25 (g) Qualified licensed architects and engineers can supplement
26 municipal plan review capacity while maintaining public safety
27 standards.

28 (h) The Legislature, by enactment of Chapter 470 of the Statutes
29 of 2025, created an expedited review process for restaurants to
30 open with less delay. An expedited review process for retail
31 establishments will similarly promote economic development while
32 ensuring compliance with all applicable health and safety
33 requirements.

34 66350.1. For purposes of this chapter, all of the following
35 definitions apply:

36 (a) “Qualified professional certifier” means an architect licensed
37 pursuant to Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 5500) of Division
38 3 of the Business and Professions Code, or a professional engineer
39 licensed pursuant to Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 6700)

1 of Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code, who meets
 2 both of the following conditions:

3 (1) Has at least five years of experience in commercial building
 4 design or plan review.

5 (2) Maintains professional liability insurance in an amount not
 6 less than two million dollars (\$2,000,000) per occurrence.

7 (b) “Retailer” means any person that is engaged in the business
 8 of making retail sales direct to the general public.

9 (c) “Tenant improvement” means a change to the interior of an
 10 existing building.

11 66350.2. (a) (1) Notwithstanding any other law, a local
 12 building department shall allow, upon request from an applicant
 13 for a permit for a tenant improvement relating to a retailer, a
 14 qualified professional certifier to certify, at the applicant’s expense,
 15 compliance with all applicable building, health, and safety codes,
 16 including, but not limited to, building standards approved by the
 17 California Building Standards Commission and local building
 18 standards, for the tenant improvement.

19 (2) A tenant improvement relating to a retailer certified pursuant
 20 to this chapter shall comply with all applicable building, health,
 21 and safety codes, including, but not limited to, building standards
 22 approved by the California Building Standards Commission and
 23 local building standards, in effect at the time the application for a
 24 permit is submitted.

25 (b) (1) (A) A qualified professional certifier shall prepare an
 26 affidavit, under penalty of perjury, attesting that the tenant
 27 improvement plans and specifications comply with all applicable
 28 building, health, and safety codes, including, but not limited to,
 29 building standards approved by the California Building Standards
 30 Commission and local building standards.

31 (B) A qualified professional certifier or the applicant shall
 32 prepare an affidavit, under penalty of perjury, attesting that the
 33 retailer for which the tenant improvement is constructed meets the
 34 requirements of subdivision (b) of Section 66350.1.

35 (2) The local building department shall approve or deny the
 36 application within 20 business days of receiving a complete
 37 application, including the affidavits specified in paragraph (1).

38 (3) If the local building department does not approve or deny
 39 the application within 20 business days of receiving a complete
 40 application, including the affidavits specified in paragraph (1), a

1 certified plan shall be deemed approved for permitting purposes,
2 provided that all fees and required documents have been submitted.

3 (4) If a complete application is denied within the
4 20-business-day period described in paragraph (2), the applicant
5 may resubmit corrected plans addressing the deficiencies identified
6 in the initial denial. The local building department's review of
7 each subsequent resubmission shall be limited to correcting the
8 deficiencies identified in the initial denial. The local building
9 department shall approve or deny each subsequent resubmission
10 within 10 business days of receipt.

11 (c) (1) Each local building department shall conduct a random
12 audit of no less than 20 percent of all tenant improvements
13 submitted per week for certification under this chapter.

14 (2) Audits shall be initiated within five business days following
15 permit issuance and shall include a review of the submitted plans
16 for compliance with all applicable building, health, and safety
17 codes, including, but not limited to, building standards approved
18 by the California Building Standards Commission and local
19 building standards.

20 (3) If an audit reveals material noncompliance, the local building
21 department shall provide a plan check correction notice within 10
22 business days of the audit's initiation.

23 (d) Certification under this chapter does not exempt a tenant
24 improvement from other mandatory construction inspections,
25 including, but not limited to, fire, health, and structural inspections
26 conducted during or after construction.

27 (e) Any false statement in a certification submission made under
28 this chapter shall be grounds for disciplinary action by the
29 California Architects Board, pursuant to Section 5586.5 of the
30 Business and Professions Code, or the Board for Professional
31 Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists, pursuant to Section
32 6775 of the Business and Professions Code, as applicable.

33 (f) A city or county may adopt, by ordinance, additional
34 qualifications or requirements for a qualified professional certifier,
35 including, but not limited to, any of the following:

36 (1) A requirement to register with the city or county prior to
37 certifying plans pursuant to this chapter.

38 (2) Training requirements that must be completed prior to
39 certifying plans pursuant to this chapter.

1 (3) Payment of fees not to exceed the reasonable cost of
2 implementing this chapter.

3 (4) Penalties that may include decertification as a qualified
4 professional certifier in that jurisdiction or reasonable
5 administrative fines for either of the following:

6 (A) Willful noncompliance with the requirements of this chapter.

7 (B) Two or more instances in which the qualified professional
8 certifier attested to certifying noncompliant plans pursuant to this
9 chapter.

10 66350.3. This chapter does not prohibit a local building
11 department from charging permit fees for applications utilizing a
12 qualified professional certifier.

13 66350.4. (a) Qualified professional certifiers shall be liable
14 for any damages arising from negligent plan review pursuant to
15 this chapter.

16 (b) The applicant shall indemnify the local agency from any
17 property damage or personal injury arising from construction
18 permitted pursuant to this chapter.

19 (c) Notwithstanding Section 815.6, a public entity or public
20 employee is not liable for an injury caused by their discretionary
21 or ministerial acts or omissions relating to the issuance or denial
22 of any permit pursuant to this chapter.

23 SEC. 4. The Legislature finds and declares that retailers' role
24 in the state's economy and tourism industry is a matter of statewide
25 concern and is not a municipal affair as that term is used in Section
26 5 of Article XI of the California Constitution. Therefore, Section
27 3 of this act adding Chapter 15 (commencing with Section 66350)
28 to Division 1 of Title 7 of the Government Code applies to all
29 cities, including charter cities.

30 SEC. 5. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to
31 Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because
32 a local agency or school district has the authority to levy service
33 charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for the program or
34 level of service mandated by this act or because costs that may be
35 incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred
36 because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a
37 crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction,
38 within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or

- 1 changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6
- 2 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution.

O

AB 1775 (Ward-D)
Veterans

Status/History: 4/7/26 – Revised, Passed on Business and Professions Committee and referred to Appropriations Committee

Location: 4/7/26 – Assembly Appropriations Committee

Introduced: 2/9/2026

Board Position: 3/5/26 - Watch

Board Staff Analysis: 4/24/26

Bill Summary:

Existing law requires boards under the Department of Consumer Affairs to expedite, and authorizes them to assist, the initial licensure process for an applicant who supplies satisfactory evidence to the board that the applicant has served as an active-duty member of the Armed Forces of the United States and was honorably discharged.

This bill would extend that requirement and authorization to also include members who were discharged solely as a result of Executive Order No. 14183, signed by President Trump on January 27, 2025.

The bill also includes an amendment and addition to the Military and Veterans Code. These do not affect licensing, enforcement, or the Board's operations as they relate to the implementation of programs under the Department of Veteran's Affairs.

Affected Laws: An act to amend Business and Professions Code sections 115.4 and 115.8, and to amend Section 885 and add Section 886 of the Military and Veterans Code.

4/7/26 Update – Revised to add co-authors Addis and Pellerin

Staff Comment: This bill would require the board, in addition to expediting the licensure process for applicants who were honorably discharged, to expedite the process for applicants discharged solely as a result of Executive Order No. 14183, which is included with the bill for reference.

The impact of adding the criteria of a discharge solely under the Executive Order is unknown. However, it is unlikely to be significant based on the low number of applicants expedited under current law.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends the Board continue to take a Watch position on AB 1775 as revised on April 7, 2026.

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1775

Introduced by Assembly Member Ward
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Addis and Pellerin)

February 9, 2026

An act to amend Sections 115.4 and 115.8 of the Business and Professions Code, and to amend Section 885 of, and to add Section 886 to, the Military and Veterans Code, relating to veterans.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1775, as introduced, Ward. Veterans.

Existing law establishes the Department of Consumer Affairs under the direction of the Director of Consumer Affairs and sets forth its powers and duties relating to the administration of the various boards under its jurisdiction that license and regulate various professions and vocations. Existing law requires those boards to expedite, and authorizes them to assist, the initial licensure process for an applicant who supplies satisfactory evidence to the board that the applicant has served as an active duty member of the Armed Forces of the United States and was honorably discharged.

This bill would extend that requirement and authorization to also include members who were discharged or received a discharge solely as a result of a specified executive order. The bill would make additional conforming changes.

Existing law requires the department, subject to an appropriation by the Legislature, to establish the Veteran's Military Discharge Upgrade Grant Program to help fund service providers who, for free or at low cost, will educate veterans about discharge upgrades and assist veterans in filing discharge upgrade applications, as specified. Existing law

authorizes the department to prioritize veteran recipients of the services, such as prioritizing those who are able to demonstrate their less than honorable characterization of service was connected to a mental health condition, traumatic brain injury, sexual assault or harassment, or sexual orientation.

This bill would instead require the program to help fund service providers who will educate veterans on the above-described services at no cost. The bill would additionally require the department to prioritize veteran recipients who are able to demonstrate that their less than honorable characterization of service was connected to a mental health condition, traumatic brain injury, sexual assault or harassment, or sexual orientation or who are able to demonstrate their characterization of service was connected to gender identity.

This bill would additionally require the department, subject to an appropriation by the Legislature, to establish the Veteran’s Housing and Supportive Services Grant Program to help fund service providers who, for at no cost, will provide housing supports for veterans being discharged from service. The bill would require the department to develop criteria, procedures, and accountability measures as may be necessary to implement the grant program, and to prioritize veteran recipients who are able to demonstrate their less than honorable characterization of service was connected to a mental health condition, traumatic brain injury, sexual assault or harassment, or sexual orientation or who are able to demonstrate their characterization of service was connected to gender identity.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 115.4 of the Business and Professions
2 Code is amended to read:
3 115.4. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, on and after July 1,
4 2016, a board within the department shall expedite, and may assist,
5 the initial licensure process for an applicant who supplies
6 satisfactory evidence to the board that the applicant has served as
7 an active duty member of the Armed Forces of the United States
8 and was honorably ~~discharged~~. *discharged or received a discharge*
9 *solely as a result of Executive Order No. 14183 issued on January*
10 *27, 2025.*

1 (b) Notwithstanding any other law, on and after July 1, 2024,
2 a board within the department shall expedite, and may assist, the
3 initial licensure process for an applicant who supplies satisfactory
4 evidence to the board that the applicant is an active duty member
5 of a regular component of the Armed Forces of the United States
6 enrolled in the United States Department of Defense SkillBridge
7 program as authorized under Section 1143(e) of Title 10 of the
8 United States Code.

9 (c) A board may adopt regulations necessary to administer this
10 section in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 3.5
11 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title
12 2 of the Government Code.

13 (d) For purposes of this section, the term “applicant” refers to
14 an applicant for an individual license and does not refer to
15 applicants for business or entity licenses.

16 SEC. 2. Section 115.8 of the Business and Professions Code
17 is amended to read:

18 115.8. The Department of Consumer Affairs shall compile
19 information on military and spouse licensure into an annual report
20 for the Legislature, which shall be submitted in conformance with
21 Section 9795 of the Government Code. The report shall include
22 all of the following for each license type of each board:

23 (a) The number of applications for a temporary license submitted
24 by military spouses per fiscal year, pursuant to Section 115.6.

25 (b) The number of applications for expedited licenses received
26 from honorably discharged military members and military ~~spouses~~
27 *spouses, or those who received a discharge solely as a result of*
28 *Executive Order No. 14183 issued on January 27, 2025*, pursuant
29 to Sections 115.4 and 115.5.

30 (c) The number of licenses issued and denied per fiscal year
31 pursuant to Sections 115.4, 115.5, and 115.6.

32 (d) The number of licenses issued pursuant to Section 115.6
33 that were suspended or revoked per fiscal year.

34 (e) The number of applications for waived renewal fees received
35 and granted pursuant to Section 114.3 per fiscal year.

36 (f) The average length of time between application and issuance
37 of licenses pursuant to Sections 115.4, 115.5, and 115.6.

38 SEC. 3. Section 885 of the Military and Veterans Code is
39 amended to read:

1 885. (a) The department shall establish the Veteran’s Military
2 Discharge Upgrade Grant Program to help fund service providers
3 who, ~~for free or at low~~ *at no* cost, will educate veterans about
4 discharge upgrades and assist qualifying veterans in filing discharge
5 upgrade applications.

6 (b) The department shall develop criteria, procedures, and
7 accountability measures as may be necessary to implement the
8 grant program. The department ~~may shall~~ prioritize veteran
9 recipients ~~of the services, such as prioritizing those~~ who are able
10 to demonstrate their less than honorable characterization of service
11 was connected to a mental health condition, traumatic brain injury,
12 sexual assault or harassment, or sexual ~~orientation.~~ *orientation or*
13 *who are able to demonstrate their characterization of service was*
14 *connected to gender identity.*

15 (c) Funding for the grant program is subject to appropriation
16 by the Legislature.

17 SEC. 4. Section 886 is added to the Military and Veterans
18 Code, to read:

19 886. (a) The department shall establish the Veteran’s Housing
20 and Supportive Services Grant Program to help fund service
21 providers who, for at no cost, will provide housing supports for
22 veterans being discharged from service.

23 (b) The department shall develop criteria, procedures, and
24 accountability measures as may be necessary to implement the
25 grant program. The department shall prioritize veteran recipients
26 who are able to demonstrate their less than honorable
27 characterization of service was connected to a mental health
28 condition, traumatic brain injury, sexual assault or harassment, or
29 sexual orientation or who are able to demonstrate their
30 characterization of service was connected to gender identity.

31 (c) Funding for the grant program is subject to appropriations
32 by the Legislature.

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REVISIONS:

Heading—Line 2.

O

Presidential Documents

Executive Order 14183 of January 27, 2025

Prioritizing Military Excellence and Readiness

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, and as Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces of the United States, and to ensure the readiness and effectiveness of our Armed Forces, it is hereby ordered:

Section 1. Purpose. The United States military has a clear mission: to protect the American people and our homeland as the world’s most lethal and effective fighting force. Success in this existential mission requires a singular focus on developing the requisite warrior ethos, and the pursuit of military excellence cannot be diluted to accommodate political agendas or other ideologies harmful to unit cohesion.

Recently, however, the Armed Forces have been afflicted with radical gender ideology to appease activists unconcerned with the requirements of military service like physical and mental health, selflessness, and unit cohesion. Longstanding Department of Defense (DoD) policy (DoD Instruction (DoDI) 6130.03) provides that it is the policy of the DoD to ensure that service members are “[f]ree of medical conditions or physical defects that may reasonably be expected to require excessive time lost from duty for necessary treatment or hospitalization.” As a result, many mental and physical health conditions are incompatible with active duty, from conditions that require substantial medication or medical treatment to bipolar and related disorders, eating disorders, suicidality, and prior psychiatric hospitalization.

Consistent with the military mission and longstanding DoD policy, expressing a false “gender identity” divergent from an individual’s sex cannot satisfy the rigorous standards necessary for military service. Beyond the hormonal and surgical medical interventions involved, adoption of a gender identity inconsistent with an individual’s sex conflicts with a soldier’s commitment to an honorable, truthful, and disciplined lifestyle, even in one’s personal life. A man’s assertion that he is a woman, and his requirement that others honor this falsehood, is not consistent with the humility and selflessness required of a service member.

For the sake of our Nation and the patriotic Americans who volunteer to serve it, military service must be reserved for those mentally and physically fit for duty. The Armed Forces must adhere to high mental and physical health standards to ensure our military can deploy, fight, and win, including in austere conditions and without the benefit of routine medical treatment or special provisions.

Sec. 2. Policy. It is the policy of the United States Government to establish high standards for troop readiness, lethality, cohesion, honesty, humility, uniformity, and integrity. This policy is inconsistent with the medical, surgical, and mental health constraints on individuals with gender dysphoria. This policy is also inconsistent with shifting pronoun usage or use of pronouns that inaccurately reflect an individual’s sex.

Sec. 3. Definitions. The definitions in the Executive Order of January 20, 2025 (Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government) shall apply to this order.

Sec. 4. Implementation. (a) Within 60 days of the date of this order, the Secretary of Defense (Secretary) shall update DoDI 6130.03 Volume 1 (Medical Standards for Military Service: Appointment, Enlistment, or Induction

(May 6, 2018), Incorporating Change 5 of May 28, 2024) and DoDI 6130.03 Volume 2 (Medical Standards for Military Service: Retention (September 4, 2020), Incorporating Change 1 of June 6, 2022) to reflect the purpose and policy of this Order.

(b) The Secretary shall promptly issue directives for DoD to end invented and identification-based pronoun usage to best achieve the policy outlined in section 2 of this order.

(c) Within 30 days of the date of this order, the Secretary shall:

(i) identify all additional steps and issue guidance necessary to fully implement this order; and

(ii) submit to the President through the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs a report that summarizes these steps.

(d) Absent extraordinary operational necessity, the Armed Forces shall neither allow males to use or share sleeping, changing, or bathing facilities designated for females, nor allow females to use or share sleeping, changing, or bathing facilities designated for males.

(e) Within 30 days of the issuance of the respective updates, directives, and guidance under subsections (a), (b), and (c) of this section, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall, with respect to the Coast Guard, issue updates, directives, and guidance consistent with the updates, directives, and guidance issued under subsections (a), (b), and (c) of this section.

Sec. 5. *Implementing the Revocation of Executive Order 14004.* (a) Pursuant to the Executive Order of January 20, 2025 (Initial Rescissions of Harmful Executive Orders and Actions), Executive Order 14004 of January 25, 2021 (Enabling All Qualified Americans To Serve Their Country in Uniform), has been revoked. Accordingly, all policies, directives, and guidance issued pursuant to Executive Order 14004 shall be rescinded to the extent inconsistent with the provisions of this order.

(b) The Secretary and, with respect to the Coast Guard, the Secretary of Homeland Security, shall take all necessary steps to implement the revocations described in subsection (a) of this section and ensure that all military departments and services fully comply with the provisions of this order.

Sec. 6. *Severability.* If any provision of this order, or the application of any provision to any person or circumstance, is held to be invalid, the remainder of this order and the application of its provisions to any other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

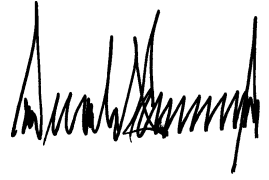
Sec. 7. *General Provisions.* (a) Nothing in this order shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect:

(i) the authority granted by law to an executive department or agency, or the head thereof; or

(ii) the functions of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget relating to budgetary, administrative, or legislative proposals.

(b) This order shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations.

(c) This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized name, possibly "Donald Trump", written in a cursive style.

THE WHITE HOUSE,
January 27, 2025.

[FR Doc. 2025-02178
Filed 1-31-25; 8:45 am]
Billing code 3395-F4-P

**AB 1796 (Jackson-D and co-Author Macedo-D)
Licensed Professional Interior Designer Act**

Status/History: Introduced 2/10/26, Amended 3/27/26, 4/13/26, 4/16/26
Passed on Business and Professions Committee and referred to Appropriations Committee

Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

Introduced: 2/10/2026

Board Position: Pending

Board Staff Analysis: 4/24/26

Bill Summary: Existing law establishes a scheme for the certification of interior designers by the California Council for Interior Design Certification, a nonprofit organization, by obtaining a stamp from the council that identifies them as a certified interior designer, and makes it an unfair business practice for any person to represent or hold themselves out as a certified interior designer without a valid certification. Existing law also authorizes the council to issue a commercial designation to a person who satisfies specified requirements.

Existing law, the Architects Practice Act, establishes the California Architects Board in the Department of Consumer Affairs to license and regulate the practice of architecture.

This bill would authorize the council to issue a professional designation to a certified interior designer or qualified applicant only until a certain date in 2027 and would instead provide for the licensure and regulation of the practice of professional interior design, as defined, by the California Architects Board. The bill would require the board to determine eligibility requirements, including examination and education requirements necessary for licensure. The bill would authorize the board to determine whether additional education or training is required for professional interior designers to identify when architectural or engineering services are required and, if so, would require the board to develop and prescribe sufficient education or training. The bill would make it a misdemeanor, punishable by an unspecified fee or by imprisonment in a county jail, or both, to engage in certain acts, including engaging in the practice of professional interior design without a license. The bill would exempt professional engineers, architects, land surveyors, and licensed contractors from the bill's provisions governing professional interior design. The bill would prescribe acts that are subject to discipline by the board and the manner of discipline and would specify conditions of renewal and expiration of a license. The bill would require the board to implement its provisions by July 1, 2028. The bill would make other related and conforming changes to the Architects Practice Act and the provisions governing interior designers.

Affected Laws: An act to amend several provisions of the Architects Practice Act, and to create the Licensed Professional Interior Design Practice Act.

Staff Comment:

There is a benefit to the intent of licensing Professional Interior Designers. The Board has had enforcement actions involving unlicensed interior designers working on projects that included unlawful contractual arrangements and activities requiring professional engineering oversight. This bill appropriately includes provisions to educate interior designers about laws governing other design professions. However, after reviewing the bill, staff have identified several areas where the proposed statutory language may negatively affect this Board's licensees. Overall, certain provisions appear to permit the unlicensed offer or practice of professional engineering, land surveying, or geology. Other provisions directly conflict with this Board's statutes by expressly authorizing activities that our laws prohibit.

Most significantly, the bill would create Section 5712, establishing written contract requirements and includes an exemption allowing professional interior designers to forgo written contracts with professional engineers or land surveyors. No such exemption exists in this Board's laws. Under current statutes, failing to execute a written contract with an interior designer would constitute a violation.

Further, the proposed Sections 5720(a)(4) and 5725(a)(3)(C) are written in such a manner that it appears to permit an interior designer to be in responsible control of structural, mechanical, or electrical design, by relieving the interior designer from professional responsibility for any structural, mechanical, electrical systems not prepared by or approved by the licensed professional interior designer.

Regarding proposed Section 5720(d), the Board's laws generally do not permit the procurement of professional services by an unlicensed person. While the subsection is largely reasonable in describing coordination activities related to assembling plan sets, the final sentence appears to allow an interior designer to procure professional services for "all other projects," which would conflict with existing law.

The proposed Section 5725(d) is also concerning. The clause "unless... authorized to do so" within the context of coordination or consultation with a professional engineer or other design professional appears to permit an interior designer to assume responsibility or liability for work performed by a professional engineer or land surveyor.

As of the date of this analysis, staff has scheduled a discussion with Committee Consultants to share these concerns and determine whether further amendments would be appropriate.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommend the Board take an Opposed Unless Amended position on AB 1796 as amended on April 16, 2026.

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 16, 2026

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 13, 2026

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 27, 2026

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2025–26 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1796

Introduced by Assembly Member Jackson
(~~Coauthors: Assembly Members Bains, Macedo, and Zbur~~)
(*Coauthor: Assembly Member Macedo*)

February 10, 2026

An act to amend Sections 5510, 5510.1, 5514, 5515, 5515.5, 5526, 5528, 5601, 5602, 5801, 5801.1, and 5811.1 of, to add Section 5811.2 to, and to add Chapter 3.8 (commencing with Section 5700) to Division 3 of, the Business and Professions Code, and to amend Section 8014 of the Civil Code, relating to professions and vocations.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1796, as amended, Jackson. Licensed Professional Interior Designer Practice Act.

Existing law, until January 1, 2027, establishes a scheme for the certification of interior designers by the California Council for Interior Design Certification, a nonprofit organization, by obtaining a stamp from the council that identifies them as a certified interior designer, and makes it an unfair business practice for any person to represent or hold themselves out as a certified interior designer without a valid certification. Existing law also authorizes the council to issue a commercial designation to a person who satisfies specified requirements. Under the existing scheme, a certification under those provisions expires in 2 years unless renewed in a specified manner.

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Existing law, the Architects Practice Act, establishes the California Architects Board, consisting of 10 members, in the Department of Consumer Affairs to license and regulate the practice of architecture.

This bill would authorize the council to issue a professional designation to a certified interior designer or qualified applicant only until _____, 2027, and would instead provide for the licensure and regulation of the practice of professional interior design, as defined, by the board. The bill would add a member to the board who is a professional interior designer, and would specify that the professional interior designer member's term begins and expires on unspecified dates. The bill would require the board to determine eligibility requirements, including examination and education requirements necessary for licensure. The bill would authorize the board to determine whether additional education or training is required for professional interior designers to identify when architectural or engineering services are required and, if so, would require the board to develop and prescribe sufficient education or training. The bill would make it a misdemeanor, punishable by an unspecified fee or by imprisonment in a county jail, or both, to engage in certain acts, including engaging in the practice of professional interior design without a license. By creating new crimes, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The bill would exempt professional engineers, architects, land surveyors, and licensed contractors from the bill's provisions governing professional interior design. The bill would require any stamp used by a licensed professional interior designer to be of a design authorized by the board and would prescribe the information contained in the stamp. The bill would establish requirements for professional interior instruments of service, as defined, and would prohibit a public entity from accepting professional interior instruments of service submissions from an individual who is not a licensed professional interior designer. By imposing requirements on local agencies, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The bill would prescribe acts that are subject to discipline by the board and the manner of discipline, and would specify conditions of renewal and expiration of a license. The bill would require the board to fix certain fees relating to licensure at specified and unspecified amounts, to be deposited into the California Professional Interior Designer Fund, established by the bill, to be made available to the board upon appropriation by the Legislature to be used to defray the expenses of the board in carrying out and enforcing the provisions of the bill. The bill would require the board to implement

its provisions by July 1, 2028. The bill would make other related and conforming changes to the Architects Practice Act and the provisions governing interior designers.

Existing law allows a design professional, as defined, to claim a lien on certain works of improvement, as specified.

This bill would include licensed interior designers in the definition of “design professional” for purposes of the above-referenced lien provisions.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that with regard to certain mandates no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

With regard to any other mandates, this bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs so mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares ~~as follows:~~
2 *all of the following:*

3 (1) In California there are roughly 7.5 billion square feet of
4 existing professional buildings.

5 (2) More than 100,000,000 square feet of professional buildings
6 are newly constructed across California and this does not account
7 for the remodeling of existing space, which sometimes only needs
8 a designer.

9 (3) The number of individuals who utilize professional buildings
10 is significant, but difficult to approximate. In 2023, California had
11 18,400,000 employed people, the highest in the United States.
12 About 88 percent of employed Californians, or roughly 16,200,000
13 people, work onsite, occupying professional space on a daily basis.
14 This number does not capture those Californians who visit or pass
15 through professional buildings to conduct tasks or business.

16 (4) Professional space includes, but is not limited to, hospitals,
17 schools, college campuses, museums, retail stores, and airport
18 terminals.

1 (5) Thirty-one jurisdictions across the nation regulate the
2 profession of interior design, including 29 states, the District of
3 Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

4 (6) The Legislature recognizes that acceptable overlap between
5 licensed design professions occurs through coordinated practice
6 within defined scope boundaries, consistent with nationally
7 recognized professional standards governing architecture,
8 engineering, and interior design professions.

9 (b) Given the quantity and scope of professional interior design
10 space in California, the regulation of professional interior designers
11 would ensure a reliable standard of practice, directly benefiting
12 and protecting many Californians who work, study, visit, and
13 convalesce in these spaces.

14 SEC. 2. Section 5510 of the Business and Professions Code is
15 amended to read:

16 5510. There is in the Department of Consumer Affairs a
17 California Architects Board, which consists of 11 members.

18 Any reference in law to the California Board of Architectural
19 Examiners shall mean the California Architects Board.

20 This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2029,
21 and as of that date is repealed. Notwithstanding any other law, the
22 repeal of this section renders the board subject to review by the
23 appropriate policy committees of the Legislature.

24 SEC. 3. Section 5510.1 of the Business and Professions Code
25 is amended to read:

26 5510.1. The Legislature finds and declares that it is the mandate
27 of the board to regulate the practice of architects and professional
28 interior designers in the interest and for the protection of the public
29 health, safety, and welfare. For this purpose, the board shall
30 delineate the minimum professional qualifications and performance
31 standards for admission to and practice of the profession of
32 architecture pursuant to this chapter and professional interior
33 designers pursuant to the Licensed Professional Interior Designer
34 Practice Act (Chapter 3.8 (commencing with Section 5700)). The
35 board shall establish a fair and uniform enforcement policy to deter
36 and prosecute violations of this chapter or any rules and regulations
37 promulgated pursuant to this chapter to provide for the protection
38 of the consumer.

39 SEC. 4. Section 5514 of the Business and Professions Code is
40 amended to read:

1 5514. (a) The membership of the board shall be composed of
2 11 members, five of whom shall be architects, one of whom shall
3 be a professional interior designer, and five of whom shall be
4 public members.

5 (b) The five architect members of the board shall be selected
6 from architects in good standing who have been licensed and in
7 practice in this state for at least five years at the time of
8 appointment, all of whom shall be residents and in practice in
9 California.

10 (c) The public members of the board shall not be licensees of
11 the board.

12 (d) The first appointed professional interior designer member
13 of the board shall have had an active National Council for Interior
14 Design Qualification Certification for at least five years at the time
15 of appointment, and shall be a resident and in practice in California.
16 After licensure for professional interior designers is established,
17 the one professional interior designer member of the board shall
18 have been in good standing, licensed, a resident, and in practice
19 in California for at least five years at the time of appointment.

20 SEC. 5. Section 5515 of the Business and Professions Code is
21 amended to read:

22 5515. (a) Every person appointed shall serve for four years
23 and until the appointment and qualification of their successor or
24 until one year has elapsed since the expiration of the term for which
25 they were appointed, whichever occurs first.

26 (b) No person shall serve as a member of the board for more
27 than two consecutive terms.

28 (c) Vacancies occurring before the expiration of the term shall
29 be filled by appointment for the unexpired term.

30 (d) Each appointment shall expire on June 30 of the fourth year
31 following the year in which the previous term expired.

32 (e) The Governor shall appoint three of the public members and
33 the six licensed members qualified as provided in Section 5514.
34 The Senate Rules Committee and the Speaker of the Assembly
35 shall each appoint a public member.

36 SEC. 6. Section 5515.5 of the Business and Professions Code
37 is amended to read:

38 5515.5. (a) Notwithstanding Section 130 or 5515, the following
39 provisions shall apply:

1 (1) Of the three licensed architects appointed by the Governor
2 whose terms commence on July 1, 2013, the term of two members
3 shall expire on June 30, 2017, and the term of one member shall
4 expire on June 30, 2019.

5 (2) Of the two licensed architects appointed by the Governor
6 whose terms commence on July 1, 2014, the term of one member
7 shall expire on June 30, 2018, and the term of the other member
8 shall expire on June 30, 2020.

9 (3) The term of the public member appointed by the Governor
10 that commences on July 1, 2014, shall expire on June 30, 2019.

11 (4) Of the two public members appointed by the Governor whose
12 terms commence on July 1, 2016, the term of one member shall
13 expire on June 30, 2020, and the term of the other member shall
14 expire on June 30, 2021.

15 (5) The term of the licensed professional interior designer
16 appointed by the Governor that commences on July 1, _____, shall
17 expire on June 30, _____.

18 (b) Except as provided in subdivision (a), this section shall not
19 be construed to affect the application of Section 130 or 5515 to
20 the terms of a current or future member of the board.

21 SEC. 7. Section 5526 of the Business and Professions Code is
22 amended to read:

23 5526. (a) The board shall adopt rules and regulations governing
24 the examination of applicants for licenses to practice architecture
25 and professional interior design in this state.

26 (b) The board may, by rule or regulation, adopt rules of
27 professional conduct that are not inconsistent with state or federal
28 law. Every person who holds a license issued by the board shall
29 be governed and controlled by these rules.

30 (c) The board may adopt other rules and regulations as may be
31 necessary and proper.

32 (d) The board may, from time to time, repeal, amend, or modify
33 rules and regulations adopted under this section. No rule or
34 regulation shall be inconsistent with this chapter.

35 (e) The board shall adopt, by regulation, a system as described
36 in Section 125.9 for the issuance to a licensee of a citation and a
37 system as described in Section 148 for the issuance of an
38 administrative citation to an unlicensed person who is acting in
39 the capacity of a licensee or registrant under the jurisdiction of the
40 board.

1 (f) The adoption, repeal, amendment, or modification of these
2 rules and regulations shall be made in accordance with Chapter
3 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of
4 Title 2 of the Government Code.

5 SEC. 8. Section 5528 of the Business and Professions Code is
6 amended to read:

7 5528. (a) The board may select and contract with necessary
8 architect and professional interior design consultants who are
9 licensed to assist it in its enforcement program on an intermittent
10 basis. The architect and professional interior design consultants
11 shall perform only those services that are necessary to carry out
12 and enforce this chapter.

13 (b) For the purposes of Division 3.6 (commencing with Section
14 810) of Title 1 of the Government Code, any consultant under
15 contract with the board shall be considered a public employee.

16 SEC. 9. Section 5601 of the Business and Professions Code is
17 amended to read:

18 5601. (a) Within 10 days after the beginning of every month,
19 all fees collected by the department for the month preceding, under
20 the provisions of this chapter, shall be paid into the State Treasury
21 to the credit of the California Architects Board Fund.

22 (b) The board may create subaccounts within the California
23 Architects Board Fund, as needed, for the purpose of ensuring that
24 moneys within the fund are equitably apportioned among the
25 architect and professional interior design professions and do not
26 exceed the reasonable regulatory costs of the board pursuant to
27 this chapter and Chapter 3.8 (commencing with Section 5700).

28 SEC. 10. Section 5602 of the Business and Professions Code
29 is amended to read:

30 5602. The money collected pursuant to this chapter and paid
31 into the California Architects Board Fund, which is hereby
32 continued in existence, shall be used in the manner prescribed by
33 law to defray the expenses of the board in carrying out and
34 enforcing the provisions of this chapter.

35 SEC. 11. Chapter 3.8 (commencing with Section 5700) is added
36 to Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code, to read:

1 CHAPTER 3.8. LICENSED PROFESSIONAL INTERIOR DESIGNER
2 PRACTICE ACT

3
4 Article 1. Definitions
5

6 5700. This chapter may be cited as the Licensed Professional
7 Interior Designer Practice Act.

8 5701. For the purposes of this chapter, the following definitions
9 apply:

10 (a) “Board” means the California Architects Board.

11 (b) “Construction observation services” means periodic
12 observation of, or visits by a licensed professional interior designer
13 or their agent to, the site of a work of improvement to determine
14 general compliance with the professional interior instruments of
15 service submissions. However, “construction observation services”
16 does not mean the superintendence of construction processes, site
17 conditions, operations, equipment, or personnel, or the maintenance
18 of a safe place to work or any safety in, on, or about the site.

19 (c) “Immediate and responsible direction” means the
20 professional interior designer does both of the following:

21 (1) Instructs any person in the preparation of a professional
22 interior instrument of service, unless the person is any of the
23 following:

24 (A) A licensed professional interior designer.

25 (B) An architect licensed pursuant to Chapter 3 (commencing
26 with Section 5500).

27 (C) A civil or structural engineer registered pursuant to Chapter
28 7 (commencing with Section 6700).

29 (2) Exercises the same judgment and responsibility in reviewing
30 all stages of the design documents and other phases of the work
31 as required by law, and which would normally be exercised if the
32 professional interior designer personally performed the required
33 tasks.

34 (d) “Licensed professional interior designer” means a person
35 who is licensed under this chapter.

36 (e) “Licensed contractor” means a person licensed under Chapter
37 9 (commencing with Section 7000).

38 (f) “Professional engineer” means a person who practices or
39 offers to practice professional engineering as described in Section
40 6701.

1 (g) (1) “Professional interior design” includes offering or
2 furnishing, or being responsible for, or in control of, the planning,
3 design, and oversight of interior spaces, in part or in whole, in
4 buildings and structures in California in a manner complying with
5 generally applicable codes and regulations. This may include any
6 of the following related to interior spaces or environments as part
7 of a construction project:

- 8 (A) Investigation, evaluation, consultation, and advice.
- 9 (B) The preparation of plans, specifications, documentation,
10 and assistance in the governmental review process related to the
11 functional and aesthetic arrangement of interior spaces, including
12 the preparation of professional interior instruments of service.
- 13 (C) The selection and specification of materials, finishes,
14 fixtures, and furniture.
- 15 (D) The coordination of the work with technical and special
16 consultants.
- 17 (E) The administration of contracts and observation of
18 construction.

19 (2) “Professional interior design” does not include any of the
20 following:

- 21 (A) The practice of a professional engineer, as defined in Section
22 6701, or the practice of a professional land surveyor, as defined
23 in Section 8701.
- 24 (B) Services that constitute the practice of architecture, as
25 defined in Section 5500.1, except as otherwise provided in this
26 chapter.
- 27 (C) Services that constitute the practice of a structural engineer,
28 as described in Section 6763.
- 29 (D) Changes to the construction classification of the building
30 or structure according to the California Building Standards Code.

31 (3) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), “professional interior design”
32 does not include any work that would require structural engineering
33 analysis or would require the licensed professional interior designer
34 to assume responsible control for a building’s structural systems,
35 including the lateral force resisting system and the seismic bracing
36 of components and equipment regulated by the authority having
37 jurisdiction through adoption of a building code or other
38 regulations.

39 (h) “Professional interior instruments of service” means the
40 designs, drawings, and specifications that establish the scope of

1 professional interior design to be constructed, the standard of
2 quality for materials, workmanship, equipment, and construction
3 systems, and the studies and other technical reports and calculations
4 prepared in the course of the practice of professional interior
5 design.

6 (i) “Professional land surveyor” means a person who practices
7 or offers to practice land surveying, as described in Section 8701.

8 (j) (1) “Responsible control” means the amount of control over
9 the content of all professional interior instruments of service during
10 their preparation that is ordinarily exercised by licensed
11 professional interior designers applying the required professional
12 standard of care. Professional responsibility and liability shall
13 attach only to those aspects of the work performed within the
14 licensed professional interior designer’s scope of practice and
15 under their responsible control.

16 (2) “Responsible control” does not require the licensed
17 professional interior designer to personally prepare all professional
18 interior design instruments of service, but requires the exercise of
19 professional judgment and supervisory authority consistent with
20 the professional standard of care applicable to licensed professional
21 interior designers.

22 (k) “Structural engineer” means a person authorized to use the
23 title “structural engineer” as described in Section 6736.

24

25 Article 2. Administration

26

27 5705. (a) The board is vested with all of the functions, duties,
28 powers, purposes, responsibilities, and jurisdiction concerning the
29 practice of professional interior design under this chapter.

30 (b) Pursuant to this chapter, the board shall exercise the
31 following functions, powers, and duties:

32 (1) Conduct or authorize examinations to ascertain the fitness
33 and qualifications of applicants for licensure and issue a license
34 to those who are found to be fit and qualified.

35 (2) Prescribe rules and regulations for a method of examination
36 of candidates. The board shall designate as its examination for
37 licensure as a professional interior designer the National Council
38 for Interior Design Qualification Examination.

39 (3) Conduct hearings on proceedings to revoke, suspend, or
40 refuse to issue licensure.

1 (4) Promulgate rules and regulations required for the
2 administration of this chapter.

3 (c) The board shall implement the provisions of this chapter no
4 later than July 1, 2028.

5

6

Article 3. Application of Chapter

7

8 5710. (a) The board shall determine eligibility requirements,
9 including, but not limited to, examination and education
10 requirements necessary for licensure pursuant to this chapter. The
11 board shall give special consideration to national examinations,
12 but is not precluded from prescribing the examination and
13 educational requirements specified in former Section 5811.1, as
14 that section read on December 31, 2026.

15 (b) The board may also prescribe relevant continuing educational
16 requirements, taking into account the cost to individual licensed
17 professional interior designers.

18 (c) The board may determine whether education or training is
19 required for professional interior designers to identify when
20 architectural or engineering services are required and appropriately
21 coordinate with, or refer those services to, licensed professionals
22 authorized to perform them. If the board determines that education
23 or training is required, the board shall develop and prescribe
24 sufficient education or training.

25 5711. (a) It is a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not less
26 than ____ dollars (\$____) nor more than ____ dollars (\$____) or
27 by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding six months, or by
28 both that fine and imprisonment, for a person to do any of the
29 following without possessing a valid, unrevoked license as
30 provided in this chapter:

31 (1) Engage in the practice of professional interior design.

32 (2) Use the titles or terms “licensed professional interior
33 designer” or “licensed professional interior design,” or any other
34 titles, words, or abbreviations that would imply or indicate that
35 they are licensed under this chapter.

36 (3) Use the stamp of a licensed professional interior designer,
37 as provided in Section 5720.

38 (4) Advertise or put out a sign, card, or other device that might
39 indicate to the public that they are a licensed professional interior

1 designer or qualified to engage in the practice of professional
2 interior design.

3 (b) A licensed professional interior designer with a valid license
4 may stamp, seal, and submit professional interior instruments of
5 service to the authorities having jurisdiction.

6 (c) A licensed professional interior designer shall not advertise
7 any services that they are not legally permitted to perform,
8 including architecture or engineering services or using the title
9 “architect” in any form.

10 (d) This chapter does not prevent or restrict any of the following
11 activities:

12 (1) The employment by a professional interior designer
13 association, partnership, or corporation furnishing interior design
14 services for remuneration of any person who is not a licensed
15 professional interior designer to perform services in various
16 capacities as needed, provided that the person does not represent
17 themselves as, or use the title of, “licensed professional interior
18 designer.”

19 (2) Use of the title “interior designer” on the part of a person
20 not licensed under this chapter, provided that person does not
21 represent themselves as, or use the title of, “licensed professional
22 interior designer.”

23 (3) The practice, services, or activities of any person licensed
24 in this state under any other law who is engaging in the profession
25 or occupation for which they are licensed or otherwise legally
26 permitted to engage in.

27 (4) Professional services limited to the design of kitchen and
28 bath spaces or the specification of products for kitchen and bath
29 areas in residential settings.

30 (5) The ability of a licensed professional interior designer to
31 supervise their own projects.

32 5712. (a) A licensed professional interior designer shall use a
33 written contract when contracting to provide professional services
34 to a client pursuant to this chapter. That written contract shall be
35 executed by the licensed professional interior designer and the
36 client, or the client’s representative, prior to the licensed
37 professional interior designer commencing work, unless the client
38 knowingly states in writing that work may be commenced before
39 the contract is executed. The written contract shall include, but
40 not be limited to, all of the following items:

1 (1) A description of the project for which the client is seeking
2 services.

3 (2) A description of the services to be provided by the licensed
4 professional interior designer to the client.

5 (3) A description of any basis of compensation applicable to
6 the contract and the method of payment agreed upon by both
7 parties.

8 (4) The name, address, and license number of the licensed
9 professional interior designer, the name and address of the client,
10 and the project address.

11 (5) A description of the procedure that the licensed professional
12 interior designer and the client will use to accommodate additional
13 services and contract changes, including, but not limited to, changes
14 in the description of the project, in the description of the services,
15 or in the description of the compensation and method of payment.

16 (6) A description of the procedure to be used by either party to
17 terminate the contract.

18 (7) A statement identifying the ownership and use of
19 professional interior instruments of service prepared by the licensed
20 professional interior designer.

21 (8) A statement in at least 12-point type that reads, “Licensed
22 professional interior designers are licensed and regulated by the
23 California Architects Board located at 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite
24 105, Sacramento, CA 95834.”

25 (b) This section does not apply to any of the following:

26 (1) Professional services rendered by a licensed professional
27 interior designer for which the client will not pay compensation.

28 (2) An arrangement as to the basis for compensation and manner
29 of providing professional services implied by the fact that the
30 licensed professional interior designer’s services are of the same
31 general kind that the licensed professional interior designer has
32 previously rendered to and received payment from the same client.

33 (3) If the client knowingly states in writing after full disclosure
34 of this section that a writing that complies with the requirements
35 of this section is not required.

36 (4) Professional services rendered by a licensed professional
37 interior designer to a professional engineer registered to practice
38 engineering under Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 6700), a
39 land surveyor licensed under Chapter 15 (commencing with Section
40 8700), an architect licensed under Chapter 3 (commencing with

1 Section 5500), or a contractor licensed under Chapter 9
2 (commencing with Section 7000).

3 5713. (a) As used in this section, the word “person” includes
4 any individual, firm, partnership, general corporation, professional
5 corporation, or limited liability partnership, as authorized by the
6 Corporations Code.

7 (b) As used in this section, the terms “business entity” and
8 “collaboration” include employer and employee relationships, joint
9 ventures, partnerships, general corporations, and consulting
10 relationships formed by written agreement in which the licensed
11 professional interior designer provides immediate and responsible
12 direction of professional interior design services.

13 (c) This chapter does not prevent a licensed professional interior
14 designer from forming a business entity or collaborating with
15 persons who are not licensed professional interior designers,
16 provided that any licensed professional interior designers’
17 professional services that are provided through that entity or
18 collaboration are offered and provided under the responsible control
19 of a licensed professional interior designer, or licensed professional
20 interior designers, and in accordance with the provisions of this
21 chapter.

22 (d) (1) A business entity organized as a general corporation
23 may include in its name any or all of the following:

- 24 (A) A fictitious name.
- 25 (B) The name of one or more licensed professional interior
26 designers.
- 27 (C) The term “licensed professional interior designer,” the term
28 “licensed professional interior design,” or a variation of the terms
29 “licensed professional interior designer” and “licensed professional
30 interior design.”

31 (2) Nothing in paragraph (1) shall limit a business entity
32 organized as a general corporation from including in its name any
33 other word or name that is not otherwise prohibited by law.

34 (3) Notwithstanding paragraphs (1) and (2), a business entity
35 organized as a general corporation shall not include in its name
36 the term “professional corporation.”

37 (e) This chapter does not prevent a corporation from furnishing
38 or supplying by contract licensed professional interior design
39 services, as long as any licensed professional interior designers’
40 professional services are offered and provided under the responsible

1 control of a licensed professional interior designer, licensed
2 professional interior designers, or those design professionals
3 exempt from this chapter pursuant to Section 5715.

4 5714. Nothing in this chapter shall preclude any activities listed
5 in the definition of a “certified interior designer” in former Section
6 5800, as it read on December 31, 2026, if that person does not
7 represent themselves or their services in any manner prohibited
8 by this chapter.

9 5715. Professional engineers registered to practice engineering
10 under Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 6700), land surveyors
11 licensed under Chapter 15 (commencing with Section 8700),
12 architects licensed under Chapter 3 (commencing with Section
13 5500), and contractors licensed under Chapter 9 (commencing
14 with Section 7000) are exempt from this chapter. However, they
15 may not use the title “licensed professional interior designer” unless
16 they hold a license as required in this chapter.

17

18

Article 4. Seal and Certification

19

20 5720. (a) (1) Any stamp used by a licensed professional
21 interior designer under this chapter shall be of a design authorized
22 by the board and shall, at a minimum, bear the licensee’s name,
23 their license number, the legend “Licensed Professional Interior
24 Designer,” and the legend “State of California,” and shall provide
25 a means of indicating the renewal date of the license.

26 (2) The licensed professional interior designer shall affix the
27 signature, current date, date of license expiration, and seal to the
28 first sheet of any bound set or loose sheets of professional interior
29 instruments of service used as contract documents between parties
30 to the contract or documents prepared for the review and approval
31 of any governmental or public authority having jurisdiction by that
32 licensed professional interior designer or under that licensed
33 professional interior designer’s responsible control.

34 (3) The sheet of professional interior instruments of service in
35 which the seal is affixed shall indicate those documents or parts
36 thereof for which the seal shall apply.

37 (4) A licensed professional interior designer shall not be deemed
38 professionally responsible for the design, performance, or adequacy
39 of any structural, mechanical, electrical, plumbing, or fire and life

1 safety systems not prepared by or under the responsible control of
2 the licensed professional interior designer.

3 (5) A licensed professional interior designer who signs or seals
4 professional interior design instruments of service represents that
5 the work was prepared by the licensed professional interior designer
6 or under the licensed professional interior designer’s responsible
7 control.

8 (b) A licensed professional interior designer shall not sign and
9 seal professional interior instruments of service that were not
10 prepared by or under the responsible control of the licensed
11 professional interior designer, except in the following
12 circumstances:

13 (1) A licensed professional interior designer may sign and seal
14 those portions of the professional interior instruments of service
15 submission that were prepared by or under the responsible control
16 of a person who holds a license under this chapter, and who has
17 signed and sealed the documents, if the licensed professional
18 interior designer has reviewed in whole or in part those portions
19 and has either coordinated their preparation or integrated them
20 into the work.

21 (2) A partner or corporate officer of a professional design firm
22 registered in this state who has professional knowledge of the
23 content of the professional interior instrument of services
24 submissions and intends to be responsible for the adequacy of the
25 professional interior instruments of services submissions may sign
26 and seal professional interior instruments of service submissions
27 that are prepared by or under the responsible control of a licensed
28 professional interior designer who is in the regular employment
29 of the professional design firm.

30 (c) The licensed professional interior designer exercising
31 responsible control under which the professional interior
32 instruments of service submissions or portions of the professional
33 interior instruments of service submissions were prepared shall be
34 identified by name and California license number.

35 (d) If engineering, structural engineering, or licensed land
36 surveying services are required in association with a project being
37 performed by a licensed professional interior designer, the
38 documents that have already been properly sealed by a licensed
39 professional engineer, licensed structural engineer, or licensed
40 land surveyor may be compiled by a licensed professional interior

1 designer. Each design professional shall seal the respective
2 documents and shall not seal a document that was not prepared
3 under the design professional’s responsible charge. For all other
4 projects, engineering, structural engineering, or land surveying
5 services shall be procured separately from the licensed professional
6 interior designer.

7
8 Article 5. Professional Interior Instrument of Service
9 Submissions

10
11 5725. (a) (1) All professional interior instruments of service
12 submissions intended for use in this state shall be prepared and
13 administered in accordance with standards of reasonable
14 professional skill and diligence. Care shall be taken to reflect the
15 requirements of state law and, if applicable, county and municipal
16 ordinances in the submissions. In recognition that professional
17 interior designers are required to be licensed for the protection of
18 the public health, safety, and welfare, submissions shall be of such
19 quality and scope, and be so administered, as to conform to
20 professional standards.

21 (2) An officer, board, commission, or other public entity that
22 receives professional interior instruments of service submissions
23 shall not accept for filing or approval any professional interior
24 instruments of service submissions from an individual who is not
25 licensed under this chapter and is not otherwise licensed in this
26 state to prepare the plans and specifications.

27 (3) (A) A licensed professional interior designer who seals and
28 signs professional interior instruments of service submissions is
29 not responsible for damage caused by subsequent changes to, or
30 uses of, those professional interior instruments of service
31 submissions if the subsequent changes or uses, including changes
32 to uses made by state or local agencies, are not authorized or
33 approved in writing by the licensed professional interior designer
34 who originally sealed and signed the professional interior
35 instruments of service submissions.

36 (B) The stamp and seal of professional interior instruments of
37 service that relate to the design of a project does not impose a legal
38 duty or responsibility upon the person signing the professional
39 interior instruments of service to observe the construction
40 undertaken to create the professional interior design. However,

1 this subparagraph does not prohibit a licensed professional interior
 2 designer and a client from entering into a contractual agreement
 3 that includes a mutually acceptable arrangement for the provision
 4 of construction observation services. This subparagraph does not
 5 modify the liability of a licensed professional interior designer
 6 who undertakes, contractually or otherwise, the provision of
 7 construction observation services for rendering those services.

8 (C) A licensed professional interior designer shall be
 9 professionally responsible only for those aspects of a project that
 10 are within the licensed professional interior designer’s scope of
 11 practice and under their responsible control, and shall not be
 12 deemed responsible for the design, performance, or adequacy of
 13 any structural, mechanical, electrical, plumbing, or fire and life
 14 safety systems not prepared, directed, or approved by the licensed
 15 professional interior designer.

16 (D) In the event of damage to commercial real property caused
 17 by a natural disaster declared by the Governor, a licensed
 18 professional interior designer shall not be liable for damages arising
 19 from the reuse, replication, or reconstruction of professional interior
 20 instruments of service without the licensed professional interior
 21 designer’s prior written consent if the instruments of service were
 22 not originally prepared for that reuse.

23 (b) No person may use a licensed professional interior designer’s
 24 professional interior instruments of service without the consent of
 25 the licensed professional interior designer in a written contract,
 26 written agreement, or written license specifically authorizing that
 27 use.

28 (c) A licensed professional interior designer shall not
 29 unreasonably withhold consent to use their professional interior
 30 instruments of service from a person for whom the licensed
 31 professional interior designer provided the services. A licensed
 32 professional interior designer may reasonably withhold consent
 33 to use the professional interior instruments of service for cause,
 34 including, but not limited to, lack of full payment for services
 35 provided or failure to fulfill the conditions of a written contract.

36 (d) Coordination with, consultation with, or incorporation of
 37 work prepared by a licensed architect, professional engineer, or
 38 other design professional shall not be construed as assuming
 39 professional responsibility or liability for such work, unless the

1 licensed professional interior designer expressly assumes such
2 responsibility in writing and is legally authorized to do so.

3

4

Article 6. Discipline

5

6 5730. (a) The board may, upon its own motion, and shall, upon
7 the verified complaint in writing of any person, investigate the
8 actions of any licensed professional interior designer, and may
9 suspend for a period not exceeding one year, or revoke, the license
10 of any licensed professional interior designer who is guilty of any
11 one or more of the acts or omissions constituting grounds for
12 disciplinary action under this chapter.

13 (b) (1) An accusation against a licensed professional interior
14 designer shall be filed within three years after the board discovers,
15 or through the use of reasonable diligence should have discovered,
16 the act or omission alleged as the ground for disciplinary action
17 or within six years after the act or omission alleged as the ground
18 for disciplinary action, whichever occurs first. However, with
19 respect to an accusation alleging a violation of subdivision (f), the
20 accusation may be filed within three years after the discovery by
21 the board of the alleged facts constituting the fraud or
22 misrepresentation prohibited by subdivision (f).

23 (2) If any accusation is not filed within the time provided in this
24 subdivision, no action against a licensed professional interior
25 designer shall be commenced under this article.

26 (c) Any proceeding for the suspension or revocation of licensure
27 under this chapter shall be conducted in accordance with the
28 provisions of Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part
29 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code. The board shall
30 have all of the powers granted in that chapter.

31 (d) (1) A suspended license is subject to expiration and shall
32 be renewed as provided in this chapter, but that renewal does not
33 entitle the licensed professional interior designer, while it remains
34 suspended and until it is reinstated, to engage in the activity to
35 which the license relates, or in any other activity or conduct in
36 violation of the order or judgment by which it was suspended.

37 (2) A revoked license is subject to expiration as provided in this
38 chapter, but it may not be renewed. If it is reinstated after its
39 expiration, the licensed professional interior designer, as a
40 condition precedent to its reinstatement, shall pay a reinstatement

1 fee in an amount equal to the renewal fee in effect on the last
 2 regular renewal date before the date on which it is reinstated, plus
 3 the delinquency fee, if any, accrued at the time of its revocation.

4 (e) The fact that the licensed professional interior designer is
 5 practicing in violation of this chapter constitutes a ground for
 6 disciplinary action.

7 (f) The fact that the licensed professional interior designer has
 8 obtained the license by fraud or misrepresentation, or that the
 9 person named in the license has obtained it by fraud or
 10 misrepresentation, constitutes a ground for disciplinary action.

11 (g) The fact that the professional interior designer is
 12 impersonating a licensed professional interior designer or former
 13 licensed professional interior designer of the same or similar name,
 14 or is practicing under an assumed, fictitious or corporate name,
 15 constitutes a ground for disciplinary action.

16 (h) The fact that the licensed professional interior designer has
 17 aided or abetted in the practice of professional interior design for
 18 any person not authorized to practice professional interior design
 19 under this chapter constitutes a ground for disciplinary action.

20 (i) The fact that the licensed professional interior designer has
 21 been guilty of fraud or deceit constitutes a ground for disciplinary
 22 action.

23 (j) The fact that the licensed professional interior designer has
 24 been guilty of negligence or willful misconduct constitutes a
 25 ground for disciplinary action.

26 (k) The fact that the licensed professional interior designer has
 27 been guilty of gross incompetence constitutes a ground for
 28 disciplinary action.

29 (l) The fact that the licensed professional interior designer has
 30 affixed their signature or their stamp to, or has permitted the use
 31 of their name on, plans, drawings, specifications, or other
 32 instruments of service that have not been prepared by that designer
 33 or under their immediate and responsible direction, or has permitted
 34 their name or signature or stamp to be used for the purpose of
 35 assisting a person who is not a licensed professional interior
 36 designer to evade the provisions of this chapter, constitutes a
 37 ground for disciplinary action.

38 (m) The conviction of a felony in connection with the practice
 39 of licensed professional interior design is a ground for disciplinary

1 action. The record of a conviction shall be conclusive evidence
2 thereof.

3 (n) The fact that the licensed professional interior designer has
4 had disciplinary action taken by any public agency for any act
5 substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties as a
6 professional interior designer constitutes a ground for disciplinary
7 action.

8 (o) A plea or verdict of guilty or a conviction following a plea
9 of nolo contendere made to a charge of a felony is deemed to be
10 a conviction within the meaning of this article. The board may
11 order the license suspended or revoked, or may decline to issue a
12 license, when the time for appeal has elapsed, or the judgment of
13 conviction has been affirmed on appeal or when an order granting
14 probation is made suspending the imposition of sentence,
15 irrespective of a subsequent order under the provisions of Section
16 1203.4 of the Penal Code allowing the person to withdraw their
17 plea of guilty and to enter a plea of not guilty, or setting aside the
18 verdict of guilty, or dismissing the accusation, information, or
19 indictment.

20 5731. (a) (1) A licensed professional interior designer shall
21 report to the board in writing within 30 days of the date the licensed
22 professional interior designer has knowledge of any civil action
23 judgment, settlement, arbitration award, or administrative action
24 resulting in a judgment, settlement, or arbitration award against
25 the licensed professional interior designer in any action alleging
26 fraud, deceit, negligence, incompetence, or recklessness by the
27 licensed professional interior designer in the practice of
28 professional interior design if the amount or value of the judgment,
29 settlement, or arbitration award is five thousand dollars (\$5,000)
30 or greater.

31 (2) The report required by paragraph (1) shall be signed by the
32 licensed professional interior designer and shall set forth the facts
33 that constitute the reportable event. If the reportable event involves
34 the action of an administrative agency or court, the report shall set
35 forth all of the following:

- 36 (A) The title of the matter.
- 37 (B) The court or agency name.
- 38 (C) The docket number.
- 39 (D) The claim or file number.
- 40 (E) The date on which the reportable event occurred.

- 1 (3) The licensed professional interior designer shall promptly
- 2 respond to oral or written inquiries from the board concerning the
- 3 reportable event, including inquiries made by the board in
- 4 conjunction with licensure renewal.
- 5 (4) Failure of a licensed professional interior designer to comply
- 6 with this subdivision shall be grounds for disciplinary action.
- 7 (5) A licensed professional interior designer who fails to comply
- 8 with this subdivision may be subject to a civil penalty of not less
- 9 than one hundred dollars (\$100) and not more than one thousand
- 10 dollars (\$1,000) as an intermediate sanction imposed by the board
- 11 in lieu of revoking the license. A licensed professional interior
- 12 designer who knowingly and intentionally fails to comply with
- 13 this subdivision may be subject to a civil penalty of up to twenty
- 14 thousand dollars (\$20,000) as an additional intermediate sanction
- 15 imposed by the board in lieu of revoking the license.
- 16 (b) (1) Within 30 days of payment of all or any portion of a
- 17 civil action judgment, settlement, or arbitration award described
- 18 in subdivision (a) against a licensed professional interior designer
- 19 in which the amount or value of the judgment, settlement, or
- 20 arbitration award is five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or greater, any
- 21 insurer providing professional liability insurance to that licensed
- 22 professional interior designer or licensed professional interior
- 23 design entity shall report to the board all of the following:
- 24 (A) The name of the licensed professional interior designer.
- 25 (B) The claim or file number.
- 26 (C) The amount or value of the judgment, settlement, or
- 27 arbitration award.
- 28 (D) The amount paid by the insurer.
- 29 (E) The identity of the payee.
- 30 (2) Within 30 days of payment of all or any portion of any civil
- 31 action judgment, settlement, or arbitration award described in
- 32 subdivision (a) against a licensed professional interior designer in
- 33 which the amount or value of the judgment, settlement, or
- 34 arbitration award is five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or greater, any
- 35 state or local governmental agency that self-insures the licensed
- 36 professional interior designer shall report to the board all of the
- 37 following:
- 38 (A) The name of the licensed professional interior designer.
- 39 (B) The claim or file number.

1 (C) The amount or value of the judgment, settlement, or
2 arbitration award.

3 (D) The amount paid by the insurer.

4 (E) The identity of the payee.

5 (c) The reporting requirements in subdivisions (a) and (b) shall
6 apply if both of the following apply:

7 (1) A party to the civil action, settlement, arbitration award, or
8 administrative action is or was a sole proprietorship, partnership,
9 firm, corporation, or state or local governmental agency in which
10 a licensed professional interior designer is or was an owner, partner,
11 member, officer, or employee.

12 (2) A licensed professional interior designer in responsible
13 control of the portion of the project that was the subject of the civil
14 judgment, settlement, arbitration award, or administrative action.

15 (d) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a licensed
16 professional interior designer shall not be considered to have
17 violated a confidential settlement agreement or other confidential
18 agreement by providing a report to the board as required by this
19 section.

20 (e) The board may adopt regulations to further define the
21 reporting requirements in subdivisions (a) and (b).

22

23 Article 7. Issuance of Licenses and Revenues

24

25 5735. (a) (1) A license issued under this chapter shall expire
26 no more than two years after the issuance date. The expiration date
27 of the original license shall be set by the board in a manner to best
28 distribute renewal procedures throughout each year.

29 (2) To renew an unexpired license, the licensed professional
30 interior designer shall, on or before the expiration date of the
31 license, apply for renewal in a form and manner prescribed by the
32 board, and pay the renewal fee prescribed by this article.

33 (3) The renewal form shall include a statement specifying
34 whether the licensed professional interior designer was convicted
35 of a crime or disciplined by another public agency during the
36 preceding renewal period and that the designer's representations
37 on the renewal form are true, correct, and contain no material
38 omissions of fact, to their best knowledge and belief.

39 (b) Within 10 days after a judgment by a court of this state that
40 a licensed professional interior designer has committed a crime or

1 is liable for any death or personal or property injury or loss caused
 2 by the license holder’s fraud, deceit, negligence, incompetency,
 3 or recklessness in practice, the clerk of the court that rendered the
 4 judgment shall report this to the board.

5 (c) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, a license that
 6 has expired may be renewed at any time within five years after its
 7 expiration on filing of an application for renewal on a form
 8 prescribed by the board, and payment of all accrued and unpaid
 9 renewal fees. If the license is renewed more than 30 days after its
 10 expiration, the licensed professional interior designer, as a
 11 condition precedent to renewal, shall also pay the delinquency fee
 12 prescribed by this article. Renewal under this section shall be
 13 effective on the date on which the application is filed, on the date
 14 on which all renewal fees are paid, or on the date on which the
 15 delinquency fee, if any, is paid, whichever occurs last. If so
 16 renewed, the license shall continue in effect until the date provided
 17 pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of this section that
 18 next occurs after the effective date of the renewal, unless the license
 19 is renewed again.

20 (d) A license that has been expired for five years or more is
 21 nonrenewable and shall not be renewed, restored, reissued, or
 22 reinstated. An individual with a nonrenewable license shall not
 23 engage in the practice of professional interior design until the
 24 individual applies for, and the board issues the individual, a new
 25 license.

26 (e) The board shall provide the authorities having jurisdiction
 27 with information about the practice and profession of licensed
 28 professional interior design.

29 5736. (a) The fees prescribed by this article for licensed
 30 professional interior designer applicants and licensed professional
 31 interior designers shall be fixed by the board as follows:

32 (1) The fee for an original license may not exceed ____ dollars
 33 (\$____), except that, if the license is issued less than one year
 34 before the date on which it will expire, then the fee shall equal 50
 35 percent of the fee fixed by the board for an original license. The
 36 board may, by appropriate regulation, provide for the waiver or
 37 refund of the initial licensure fee where the license is issued fewer
 38 than 45 days before the date on which it will expire.

39 (2) The fee for a duplicate license shall not exceed ____ dollars
 40 (\$____).

1 (3) The renewal fee for a license shall not exceed ____ dollars
2 (\$____).

3 (4) The penalty for failure to notify the board of a change of
4 address within 30 days from an actual change in address shall not
5 exceed fifty dollars (\$50).

6 (5) The delinquency fee shall be 50 percent of the renewal fee
7 for the license in effect on the date of the renewal of the license,
8 but not less than ____ dollars (\$____) nor more than ____ dollars
9 (\$____).

10 (b) The fees specified in subdivision (a) shall not exceed the
11 reasonable regulatory costs of the board related to administering,
12 implementing, and enforcing this chapter.

13 (c) (1) There is hereby established in the State Treasury, the
14 California Professional Interior Designer Fund. Moneys deposited
15 in the fund shall, upon appropriation by the Legislature, be made
16 available to the board to be used in the manner prescribed by law
17 to defray the expenses of the board in carrying out and enforcing
18 the provisions of this chapter.

19 (2) Within 10 days after the beginning of every month, all fees
20 collected by the board for the preceding month under this article
21 shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the California
22 Professional Interior Designer Fund.

23 SEC. 12. Section 5801 of the Business and Professions Code
24 is amended to read:

25 5801. A Certified Interior Designer may obtain a stamp from
26 the council that shall include a number that uniquely identifies and
27 bears the name of that Certified Interior Designer and identifies
28 the individual as one of the following:

29 (a) A Certified Interior Designer, if the applicant has provided
30 the council with evidence of meeting the education, experience,
31 and examination requirements pursuant to Section 5811.1.

32 (b) Until ____, 2027, a Certified Interior Designer with
33 professional designation, if the Certified Interior Designer or
34 applicant has met the requirements pursuant to Section 5811.2.

35 SEC. 13. Section 5801.1 of the Business and Professions Code
36 is amended to read:

37 5801.1. The procedure for the issuance of a stamp by the
38 council under subdivision (a) of Section 5801, including the
39 examinations recognized and required by the council, shall be

1 subject to the occupational analyses and examination validation
2 required by Section 139 every five to seven years.

3 SEC. 14. Section 5811.1 of the Business and Professions Code
4 is amended to read:

5 5811.1. (a) (1) The council may issue a Certified Interior
6 Designer certification pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 5801
7 to any applicant who provides satisfactory evidence that they meet
8 all of the requirements of this chapter and who complies with the
9 bylaws, rules, and procedures established by the council.

10 (2) In order to obtain a certification, an applicant shall submit
11 an application as provided by the council and provide the council
12 with satisfactory evidence that they meet all of the following
13 requirements:

14 (A) Passage of an interior design examination approved by the
15 council.

16 (B) Any of the following education and experience pathways:

17 (i) The person is a graduate of a four- or five-year accredited
18 interior design degree program, and has two years of diversified
19 interior design experience.

20 (ii) The person has completed a three-year accredited interior
21 design certificate program, and has completed three years of
22 diversified interior design experience.

23 (iii) The person has completed a two-year accredited interior
24 design program and has completed four years of diversified interior
25 design experience.

26 (iv) The person has at least eight years of interior design
27 education, or at least eight years of diversified interior design
28 experience, or a combination of interior design education and
29 diversified interior design experience that together total at least
30 eight years.

31 (C) All fees required by the council, as described in subdivision
32 (e) of Section 5811, have been paid.

33 (b) (1) The certificate for a Certified Interior Designer under
34 subdivision (a) of Section 5801 shall be subject to renewal every
35 two years in a manner prescribed by the council, and shall expire
36 unless renewed in that manner. The council may provide for the
37 late renewal of a registration.

38 (2) The council may require Certified Interior Designers to
39 complete continuing education specific to the practice of interior
40 design each two-year certification cycle.

1 SEC. 15. Section 5811.2 is added to the Business and
2 Professions Code, to read:

3 5811.2. (a) (1) The council may issue a professional
4 designation to a Certified Interior Designer or qualified applicant
5 who provides satisfactory evidence that they meet all of the
6 requirements of this chapter and who complies with the bylaws,
7 rules, and procedures established by the council.

8 (2) In order to obtain a professional designation, a Certified
9 Interior Designer or qualified applicant shall submit an application
10 as provided by the council and provide the council with satisfactory
11 evidence that they meet all of the following requirements:

12 (A) Passage of an interior design examination approved by the
13 council.

14 (B) Any of the following education and experience pathways:

15 (i) The person is a graduate of a four- or five-year accredited
16 interior design degree program, and has two years of diversified
17 interior design experience.

18 (ii) The person has completed a three-year accredited interior
19 design certificate program, and has three years of diversified
20 interior design experience.

21 (iii) The person has completed a two-year accredited interior
22 design program and has four years of diversified interior design
23 experience.

24 (iv) The person has at least eight years of interior design
25 education, or at least eight years of diversified interior design
26 experience, or a combination of interior design education and
27 diversified interior design experience that together total at least
28 eight years.

29 (C) All fees required by the council, as described in subdivision
30 (e) of Section 5811, have been paid.

31 (b) In addition to the requirements in subdivision (a), the
32 Certified Interior Designer or qualified applicant shall pass
33 additional interior design courses and examinations, as determined
34 to be required by the council.

35 (c) The council may issue a professional designation to a
36 Certified Interior Designer or qualified applicant only until ____,
37 2027. On and after ____, 2027, a Certified Interior Designer with
38 an active professional designation shall not have that stamp
39 renewed.

40 SEC. 16. Section 8014 of the Civil Code is amended to read:

1 8014. “Design professional” means a person licensed as an
 2 architect pursuant to Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 5500)
 3 of Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code, licensed as a
 4 landscape architect pursuant to Chapter 3.5 (commencing with
 5 Section 5615) of Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code,
 6 licensed as a professional interior designer pursuant to Chapter
 7 3.8 (commencing with Section 5700) of Division 3 of the Business
 8 and Professions Code, registered as a professional engineer
 9 pursuant to Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 6700) of Division
 10 3 of the Business and Professions Code, or licensed as a land
 11 surveyor pursuant to Chapter 15 (commencing with Section 8700)
 12 of Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code.

13 SEC. 17. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to
 14 Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution for certain
 15 costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district
 16 because, in that regard, this act creates a new crime or infraction,
 17 eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime
 18 or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the
 19 Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the
 20 meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California
 21 Constitution.

22 However, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that
 23 this act contains other costs mandated by the state, reimbursement
 24 to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made
 25 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division
 26 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

O

AB 1933 (Hoover-R)
Land surveyors: records of survey

Status/History: 4/9/26 – Amended 4/7/26, Passed Committee on Business and Professions, Referred to Committee on Appropriations

Location: 4/9/26 – Assembly Committee on Appropriations

Introduced: 2/13/2026

Board Position: 3/5/26 - Watch

Board Staff Analysis: 4/24/26

Bill Summary:

Existing law establishes a record of survey review process, which requires a county surveyor to examine a record of survey for compliance with specified requirements, and authorizes the county surveyor to charge a reasonable fee for examining a record of survey, as provided, and not to exceed the cost of the service. Existing law requires that, if a record of survey complies with the specified requirements, the county surveyor must endorse a statement of examination on the record of survey and present it to the county recorder for filing. Existing law requires that, if the record of survey does not comply with the above requirements, the county surveyor must return it to the person who presented it with a written statement of the changes necessary to make it conform.

This bill would, instead, require the county surveyor to return the record of survey to the licensed land surveyor or registered civil engineer who presented it with a written statement of the changes necessary to make it conform.

Existing law requires a corner record, as defined, to be examined for compliance with specified provisions, including that a corner record be signed and sealed by a land surveyor or civil engineer, as specified. Existing law requires that a monument set by a licensed land surveyor or registered civil engineer be permanently and visibly marked or tagged with the licensee's certificate number, as specified.

This bill would revise the above corner record examination provisions to require a county surveyor or engineer, when examining a corner record for compliance, to include compliance with specified monument identification and tagging requirements, as specified. By requiring a higher level of service from a county surveyor, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Affected Laws: An act to amend Business and Professions Code sections 8767 and 8773.2.

4/8/26 – Update: The bill amends Section 8773.2 to appropriately require that the corner record is to be fastened in a book by the county surveyor, rather than the person submitting the corner record.

Staff Comment: This bill would require the County Surveyor to return a record of survey requiring changes to comply with specified requirements to the actual licensed land surveyor or appropriately-licensed civil engineer signing, sealing, and otherwise in responsible charge of the survey represented on the record of survey. Staff notes that this may be helpful in efforts to prevent fraud by unlicensed individuals, but there are concerns that there may be an added financial burden on the client due to the increase in time spent by the licensee on the project, especially when the Act allows for authorized subordinates acting in such capacity under an appropriately licensed individual. Further, there is no guarantee of interaction with a licensee using an electronic map checking system or that it is in fact the responsible charge licensee in direct electronic communication with the County Surveyor.

In addition, the bill would require the county surveyor to review a corner record for compliance with Section 8772, which requires monuments to be properly marked or tagged. By requiring County staff to physically inspect monuments for compliance with Section 8772, this may place additional financial and workload burden on a County. This may also result in increased costs passed on to the public for this additional requirement.

In addition, this bill simultaneously makes non-substantive changes to gender specific language in Sections 8767 and 8773.2, such as changing “him or her” to “their” or to a specified person. However, it is possible that the revision to Section 8773.2(d) was made in error. Existing law requires the county surveyor to securely fasten a corner record in a book. However, in revising “him or her” to the “person submitting the corner record,” it now reads that it is the submitting licensee who will be responsible for securing the filed corner record into the book, which is absurd because the submitting licensee is not required to maintain a “book” or “index” of corner records for public use.

Staff also notes that Section 8767 refers to “registered civil engineer,” in both the existing and proposed revisions. Staff considers this bill an opportunity to suggest an update of the language to “licensed civil engineer,” in conformance with other statutes.

4/24/26 – Staff Comment Update: Staff notes the correction related to the person responsible for fastening the corner record in a book maintained by the County. However, the larger concern regarding the potential burden on a County’s verification of monumentation is still present. Board Staff continue to work with the Author on the concerns and suggested revisions.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends the Board continue to take an Oppose Unless Amended position on AB 1933 as amended on April 8, 2026.

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1933

Introduced by Assembly Member Hoover

February 13, 2026

An act to amend Sections 8767 and 8773.2 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to land surveyors.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1933, as introduced, Hoover. Land surveyors: records of survey.

Existing law establishes a record of survey review process, which requires a county surveyor to examine a record of survey for compliance with specified requirements, and authorizes the county surveyor to charge a reasonable fee for examining a record of survey, as provided, and not to exceed the cost of the service. Existing law requires that, if a record of survey complies with the specified requirements, the county surveyor must endorse a statement of examination on the record of survey and present it to the county recorder for filing. Existing law requires that, if the record of survey does not comply with the above requirements, the county surveyor must return it to the person who presented it with a written statement of the changes necessary to make it conform.

This bill would, instead, require the county surveyor to return the record of survey to the licensed land surveyor or registered civil engineer who presented it with a written statement of the changes necessary to make it conform.

Existing law requires a corner record, as defined, to be examined for compliance with specified provisions, including that a corner record be signed and sealed by a land surveyor or civil engineer, as specified. Existing law requires that a monument set by a licensed land surveyor

or registered civil engineer be permanently and visibly marked or tagged with the licensee's certificate number, as specified.

This bill would revise the above corner record examination provisions to require a county surveyor or engineer, when examining a corner record for compliance, to include compliance with specified monument identification and tagging requirements, as specified. By requiring a higher level of service from a county surveyor, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 8767 of the Business and Professions
2 Code is amended to read:

3 8767. If the county surveyor finds that the record of survey
4 complies with the examination in Section 8766, the county surveyor
5 shall endorse a statement on it of ~~his or her~~ *their* examination, and
6 shall present it to the county recorder for filing. Otherwise the
7 county surveyor shall return it to the ~~person~~ *licensed land surveyor*
8 *or registered civil engineer* who presented it, together with a
9 written statement of the changes necessary to make it conform to
10 the requirements of Section 8766. The licensed land surveyor or
11 registered civil engineer submitting the record of survey may then
12 make the agreed changes and note those matters which cannot be
13 agreed upon in accordance with the provisions of Section 8768
14 and shall resubmit the record of survey within 60 days, or within
15 the time as may be mutually agreed upon by the licensed surveyor
16 or registered engineer and the county surveyor, to the county
17 surveyor for filing pursuant to Section 8768.

18 SEC. 2. Section 8773.2 of the Business and Professions Code
19 is amended to read:

20 8773.2. (a) A "corner record" submitted to the county surveyor
21 or engineer shall be examined by ~~him or her~~ *the county surveyor*
22 *or engineer* for compliance with subdivision (d) of Section 8765

1 and Sections 8772, 8773, 8773.1, and 8773.4, endorsed with a
2 statement of ~~his or her~~ *their* examination, and filed with the county
3 surveyor or returned to the submitting party within 20 working
4 days after receipt.

5 (b) In the event the submitted “corner record” fails to comply
6 with the examination criteria of subdivision (a), the county surveyor
7 or engineer shall return it to the person who submitted it together
8 with a written statement of the changes necessary to make it
9 conform to the requirements of subdivision (a). The licensed land
10 surveyor or licensed civil engineer submitting the corner record
11 may then make the agreed changes in compliance with subdivision
12 (a) and note those matters that cannot be agreed upon in accordance
13 with the provisions of subdivision (c), and shall resubmit the corner
14 record within 60 days, or within the time as may be mutually
15 agreed upon by the licensed land surveyor or licensed civil engineer
16 and the county surveyor, to the county surveyor for filing pursuant
17 to subdivision (c). The county surveyor or engineer shall file the
18 corner record within 10 working days after receipt of the
19 resubmission.

20 (c) If the matters appearing on the corner record cannot be
21 agreed upon by the licensed land surveyor or the licensed civil
22 engineer and the county surveyor within 10 working days after the
23 licensed land surveyor or licensed civil engineer resubmits and
24 requests the corner record be filed without further change, an
25 explanation of the differences shall be noted on the corner record
26 and it shall be submitted to and filed by the county surveyor. The
27 licensed land surveyor or licensed civil engineer filing the corner
28 record shall attempt to reach agreement with the county surveyor
29 regarding the language for the explanation of the differences. If
30 they cannot agree on the language explaining the differences, then
31 both shall add a notation on the corner record explaining the
32 differences. The explanation of the differences shall be sufficiently
33 specific to identify the factual basis for the differences.

34 (d) The corner record filed with the county surveyor of any
35 county shall be securely fastened by ~~him or her~~ *the person*
36 *submitting the corner record* into a suitable book provided for that
37 purpose.

38 (e) A charge for examining, indexing, and filing the corner
39 record may be collected by the county surveyor, not to exceed the
40 amount required for the recording of a deed.

1 (f) If the preparer of the corner record provides a postage-paid,
2 self-addressed envelope or postcard with the filing of the corner
3 record, the county surveyor shall return the postage-paid,
4 self-addressed envelope or postcard to the preparer of the corner
5 record with the filing data within 20 days of final filing. For the
6 purposes of this subdivision, "filing data" includes the date, book
7 or volume, and the page at which the corner record is filed by the
8 county surveyor. This subdivision shall not apply to a county
9 surveyor's office that maintains an electronic database of filed
10 corner records that is accessible to the public by reference to the
11 preparer's license number.

12 SEC. 3. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to
13 Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because
14 a local agency or school district has the authority to levy service
15 charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for the program or
16 level of service mandated by this act, within the meaning of Section
17 17556 of the Government Code.

O

AB 1999 (Kalra-D)
Veterinary Medicine

Status/History: Amended 3/19/26 – Passed Committee on Business and Professions and referred to Assembly Appropriations Committee

Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

Introduced: 2/17/2026

Board Position: 3/5/26 - Watch

Board Staff Analysis: 4/24/26

Bill Summary:

Existing law prohibits a person from using the title or any abbreviation of the title photogrammetrist or photogrammetric surveyor unless they hold registration as a civil engineer or licensed land surveyor, or unless they are licensed as a photogrammetric surveyor.

This bill, as originally introduced, would have made non-substantive changes to the provision relating to photogrammetry.

Affected Laws: As originally introduced, an act to amend Business and Professions Code section 8775.

3/19/26 – Update: AB 1999 was amended significantly proposing to make several amendments to the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act.

Staff Comment: This bill, as originally introduced, made non-substantive changes relating to gender neutrality and staff found there were no concerns with the revisions. As this bill no longer affects laws related to the practice of photogrammetry, or any other laws under the Board Practice Acts, there is no further need to follow this bill.

Staff Recommendation:

No action necessary

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 19, 2026

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2025–26 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1999

Introduced by Assembly Member Kalra

February 17, 2026

An act to amend ~~Section 8775~~ of Sections 4825.1, 4826.6, 4827, 4830, 4840.5, 4858, 4858.1, 4858.2, 4900, 4901, 4902, and 4905 of, to add Sections 4846.3, 4846.4, and 4848.2 to, and to repeal Sections 4843.5 and 4844 of, the Business and Professions Code, relating to professions and vocations.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1999, as amended, Kalra. ~~Land surveyors: photogrammetry. Veterinary medicine.~~

Existing law, the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act, establishes the Veterinary Medical Board for the licensure and regulation of the practice of veterinary medicine and makes a violation of those provisions a crime. Existing law creates various exemptions from the act. Among those exemptions, existing law exempts practicing veterinary medicine as a bona fide owner of one's own animal, as specified.

This bill would exclude a surgical or dental operation, as defined, from this exemption. The bill would also exempt from the act an unlicensed person who provides teleconsultation to a California-licensed veterinarian, as specified.

Existing law generally prohibits a veterinarian from treating an animal unless a veterinarian-client-patient relationship exists, except when the animal patient is a wild animal or the owner of the animal patient is unknown.

This bill would create an additional exception for when a rabies vaccination is prophylactically administered to the animal patient to prevent disease or loss of life.

Under existing law, a veterinarian-client-patient relationship exists if certain conditions are met, including that the veterinarian possesses sufficient knowledge of the animal patient and has communicated with the client a medical, treatment, diagnostic, or therapeutic plan, as specified. Existing law places limits on the duration of a veterinarian's prescription of a drug that varies depending on how the veterinarian-client-patient relationship was established. If the veterinarian established the relationship by examining the animal patient in person or by making medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises on which the animal patient is kept, existing law prohibits the veterinarian from prescribing a drug for a duration that is longer than one year from the date that the veterinarian examined the animal patient in person or visited the premises and prescribed the drug. If the veterinarian established the relationship using synchronous audio-video communication, existing law limits the duration of the prescription to 6 months from the date that the veterinarian examined the animal patient or prescribed the drug.

This bill would revise and recast provisions regulating the veterinarian-client-patient relationship. In this regard, the bill, among other revisions, would remove the requirement that the veterinarian has communicated with the client a medical, treatment, diagnostic, or therapeutic plan to establish the veterinarian-client-patient relationship. Instead, the bill would make that communication a requirement for each medical condition for which the veterinarian may prescribe, dispense, or administer treatment. Additionally, the bill would delete the above-described time limitation on the duration of a veterinarian prescription of a drug, and would instead impose similar time limitations on the veterinarian-client-patient relationship. Specifically, the bill would make the veterinarian-client-patient relationship expire one year after examining the animal patient in person, one year after making medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises on which the animal patient is kept, or 6 months after examining the animal patient by use of synchronous audio-video communication. Additionally, the bill would authorize a veterinarian-client-patient relationship to continue in the absence of the veterinarian if, among other things, the subsequent veterinarian has assumed responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the animal patient. The bill would

also authorize a subsequent veterinarian, in the absence of the originally prescribing veterinarian, to prescribe, dispense, or furnish a refill of drugs for use on the animal patient on an emergency basis for a traveling animal patient or if the subsequent veterinarian serves at the same location as the originally prescribing veterinarian, as specified.

Existing law creates various exceptions under, and exemptions from, the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act related to the practice of veterinary medicine in the context of animal shelters.

This bill would create a new veterinarian license category referred to as a “shelter veterinarian license” under which the holder would be allowed to practice veterinary medicine solely for an animal shelter or under certain emergency circumstances, as specified. The shelter veterinarian license would be available to the holder of a veterinarian license from any state, a United States territory, or a Canadian province if they meet certain continuing education, examination, criminal background check, and other requirements, as applicable. Among the requirements for a shelter veterinarian license, the bill would require the applicant to certify that the sole purpose of the license is to practice veterinary medicine for an animal shelter. By expanding the scope of the crime of perjury, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Existing law authorizes a licensee, registrant, or permitholder to apply for their license, registration, or permit to be placed in inactive status, as specified. Existing law prohibits the holder of an inactive license, registration, or permit from engaging in any activity for which an active license, registration, or permit is required. Existing law subjects the holder to the normal renewal fee, but exempts the holder from any continuing education requirements for renewal.

This bill would create 2 new status categories referred to as “retired status” and “retired volunteer status,” respectively. The retired status would be available to a veterinarian or registered veterinary technician who meets specified requirements, including completing an application and paying a specified fee. A licensee or registrant with a retired status would be prohibited from practicing veterinary medicine, and would be exempt from renewal requirements, as specified. The 2nd status category, the retired volunteer status, would allow the holder to practice veterinary medicine only for an animal shelter or under emergency circumstances, as specified. The retired volunteer status would be available to the holder of a veterinarian license or veterinary technician registration from any state, a United States territory, or a Canadian

province if they meet certain continuing education, criminal background check, examination, and other requirements, as applicable. Among the requirements for a retired volunteer status, the bill would require the applicant to certify that the sole purpose of the retired volunteer status is to provide voluntary, unpaid, veterinary medical services to an animal shelter. By expanding the scope of the crime of perjury, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Existing law makes a license, registration, or permit expire within a specified period of time if it is not renewed, as specified. Existing law authorizes a licensee, registrant, or permitholder to renew an expired license, registration, or permit within 5 years of its expiration if certain delinquency fees are paid. If 5 years or longer have elapsed since the expiration, existing law prohibits the license, registration, or permit from being restored, reissued, or reinstated, but authorizes the person to apply for and obtain a new license, registration, or permit.

This bill, instead, would allow restoration of a license, registration, or permit that has been expired or assigned retired status for 5 years or longer if the licensee, registrant, or permitholder meets the requirements for initial issuance of the license, registration, or permit. The bill would prohibit the restoration of an out-of-state veterinarian license or veterinary technician registration with retired volunteer status.

Existing law requires all veterinary premises to be registered with the board. To register a veterinary premises, existing law requires the owner or operator of the veterinary premises to submit an application that includes, among other information, the name of the responsible licensee manager. Existing law authorizes substitution of the responsible licensee manager by application to the board, as specified. If the owner or operator of a veterinary premises is a corporation or other artificial legal entity, existing law requires certain changes in the owners, officers, directors, shareholders, general partners, or agent for service of process, as specified, to be reported to the board within 30 days.

This bill would require the premises registration holder to satisfy the above-described requirements and confirm that the information provided to the board is current and valid to renew the premises registration. By expanding the scope of the crime of perjury, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Because this bill would create new requirements within the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act, the violation of which would be a crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

The bill would make related and conforming changes.

~~Existing law, the Professional Land Surveyors' Act, provides for the licensure and regulation of land surveyors. Under the act, a person practices land surveying if they profess to be a land surveyor or are in responsible charge of land surveying work.~~

~~The act prohibits a person from using the title or any abbreviation of the title photogrammetrist or photogrammetric surveyor unless they hold registration as a civil engineer or licensed land surveyor, or unless they are licensed as a photogrammetric surveyor.~~

~~This bill would make nonsubstantive changes to the provision relating to photogrammetry.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~-yes.
State-mandated local program: ~~no~~-yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 4825.1 of the Business and Professions
2 Code is amended to read:

3 4825.1. These definitions shall govern the construction of this
4 chapter as it applies to veterinary medicine.

5 (a) "Animal" means any member of the animal kingdom other
6 than humans and includes fowl, fish, and reptiles, wild or domestic,
7 whether living or dead.

8 ~~(a)~~

9 (b) "Client" means the individual or individuals who represent
10 to the veterinarian that they are the owner or owners of the animal
11 patient at the time that the services are provided.

12 ~~(b)~~

13 (c) "Diagnosis" means the act or process of identifying or
14 determining the health status of an animal patient through
15 examination and the opinion derived from that examination.

16 ~~(e) "Animal" means any member of the animal kingdom other
17 than humans, and includes fowl, fish, and reptiles, wild or
18 domestic, whether living or dead.~~

1 (d) “Electronic communication technology” means electronic
 2 devices and systems that transfer electronic content that includes,
 3 but is not limited to, all of the following:

- 4 (1) Email.
- 5 (2) Live chats and synchronous, two-way text messaging.
- 6 (3) Still photographs.
- 7 (4) Synchronous video and audio communication.
- 8 (5) Synchronous, two-way audio communication.
- 9 (6) Telephone and voicemail.
- 10 (7) Videos.

11 ~~(d)~~
 12 (e) “Food animal” means any animal that is raised for the
 13 production of an edible product intended for consumption by
 14 humans. The edible product includes, but is not limited to, milk,
 15 meat, and eggs. Food animal includes, but is not limited to, cattle
 16 (beef or dairy), swine, sheep, poultry, fish, and amphibian species.

17 (f) “Herd” means any group of two or more animals of the same
 18 species and located at the same geographic location.

19 ~~(e)~~

20 (g) “Livestock” includes all animals, poultry, aquatic and
 21 amphibian species that are raised, kept, or used for profit. It does
 22 not include those species that are usually kept as pets such as dogs,
 23 cats, and pet birds, or companion animals, including equines.

24 ~~(f) “Synchronous” means a real-time interaction between a client
 25 and animal patient with a veterinarian who is licensed in this state
 26 and located at a distant site.~~

27 ~~(g) “Telehealth” means the mode of delivering veterinary
 28 medicine via electronic communication technologies to facilitate
 29 the diagnosis, consultation, care management, or treatment of an
 30 animal patient, and includes, but is not limited to, synchronous
 31 video and audio communication; synchronous, two-way audio
 32 communication; and electronic transmission of images, diagnostics,
 33 data, and medical information.~~

34 (h) “Teleconsultation” means communication via electronic
 35 communication technology between a California-licensed
 36 veterinarian who has established the veterinarian-client-patient
 37 relationship for the animal patient, and an individual whose
 38 expertise, in the opinion of the California-licensed veterinarian,
 39 would benefit the animal patient, but who does not have a
 40 veterinarian-client-patient relationship for the animal patient,

1 *does not have direct communication with the client or the client's*
2 *agent, and does not have ultimate authority over the care or*
3 *primary diagnosis of the animal patient.*

4 (i) *"Telemedicine" means the use of electronic communication*
5 *technology to practice veterinary medicine.*

6 (j) *"Telerriage" means the use of electronic communication to*
7 *diagnose and treat a medical emergency, as defined in Section*
8 *4840.5, without establishing a veterinarian-client-patient*
9 *relationship, until the animal patient is transported to, or seen by,*
10 *a veterinarian.*

11 *SEC. 2. Section 4826.6 of the Business and Professions Code*
12 *is amended to read:*

13 4826.6. (a) A veterinarian shall not prescribe, dispense, or
14 administer a drug, medicine, application, or treatment of whatever
15 nature for the prevention, cure, or relief of a wound, fracture, bodily
16 injury, or disease of animals unless a veterinarian-client-patient
17 relationship exists or as otherwise permitted by law, except when
18 the animal patient is a wild-~~animal~~ or animal, the owner of the
19 animal patient is ~~unknown~~, unknown, or a rabies vaccination is
20 prophylactically administered to the animal patient to prevent
21 disease or loss of life. A veterinarian-client-patient relationship
22 exists if all of the following conditions are met:

23 (1) The client has authorized the veterinarian to assume
24 responsibility for medical judgments regarding the health of the
25 animal patient.

26 (2) The veterinarian possesses sufficient knowledge of the
27 animal patient to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis
28 of the animal patient's medical condition. *patient.*

29 (3) The veterinarian has assumed responsibility for making
30 medical judgments regarding the health of the animal patient and
31 has communicated with the client a medical, treatment, diagnostic,
32 or therapeutic plan appropriate to the circumstances. *patient.*

33 (b) A veterinarian possesses sufficient knowledge of the animal
34 patient for purposes of paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) if the
35 veterinarian has recently seen, or is personally acquainted with,
36 the care of the animal patient by doing any of the following:

37 (1) Examining the animal patient in person.

38 (2) Examining the animal patient by use of synchronous
39 audio-video communication.

1 (3) Making medically appropriate and timely visits to the
2 premises on which the animal patient is kept.

3 (c) For purposes of paragraphs (1) and (3) of subdivision (a),
4 the client may authorize an agent to act on the client's behalf.

5 ~~(d) Synchronous audio-video communication is not required~~
6 ~~for the delivery of veterinary medicine via telehealth after a~~
7 ~~veterinarian-client-patient relationship has been established unless~~
8 ~~the veterinarian determines that it is necessary in order to provide~~
9 ~~care consistent with prevailing veterinary medical practice.~~

10 (d) A veterinarian shall communicate with the client a medical,
11 treatment, diagnostic, or therapeutic plan for each medical
12 condition for which the veterinarian may prescribe, dispense, or
13 administer treatment of whatever nature under the
14 veterinarian-client-patient relationship. If the medical, treatment,
15 diagnostic, or therapeutic plan for a medical condition changes
16 from that which was initially communicated to the client, the
17 veterinarian shall attempt to communicate the necessary changes
18 with the client in a timely manner.

19 (e) A veterinarian-client-patient relationship shall not be
20 established solely by audio-only communication or by means of
21 a questionnaire.

22 ~~(f) Only a person who holds a current license to practice~~
23 ~~veterinary medicine in this state is authorized to practice veterinary~~
24 ~~medicine via telehealth on an animal patient located in this state.~~

25 ~~(g)~~

26 (f) Before delivering veterinary medicine via ~~telehealth,~~
27 *telemedicine*, the veterinarian shall inform the client about the use
28 and potential limitations of ~~telehealth~~ *telemedicine* and obtain
29 consent from the client to use ~~telehealth,~~ *telemedicine*, including
30 acknowledgment of all of the following:

31 (1) The same standards of care apply to veterinary medicine
32 services via ~~telehealth~~ *telemedicine* and in-person veterinary
33 medical services.

34 (2) The client has the option to choose an in-person visit from
35 a veterinarian at any time.

36 (3) The client has been advised how to receive followup care
37 or assistance in the event of an adverse reaction to the treatment
38 or in the event of an inability to communicate resulting from
39 technological or equipment failure.

40 ~~(h)~~

1 (g) A veterinarian who practices veterinary medicine via
2 ~~telehealth~~ *telemedicine* shall do all of the following:

3 (1) Ensure that the technology, method, and equipment used to
4 provide veterinary medicine services via ~~telehealth~~ *telemedicine*
5 comply with all current privacy protection laws.

6 (2) Have historical knowledge of the animal patient by obtaining
7 and reviewing the animal patient's relevant medical history, and,
8 if available, medical records. If medical records exist from a
9 previous in-person visit and are available to the client, the client
10 may transmit those records, including any diagnostic data contained
11 therein, to the veterinarian electronically.

12 (3) Employ sound professional judgment to determine whether
13 using ~~telehealth~~ *telemedicine* is an appropriate method for
14 delivering medical ~~advice~~ or treatment to the animal patient and
15 providing quality of care consistent with prevailing veterinary
16 medical practice.

17 (4) Be familiar with available medical resources, including
18 emergency resources near the animal patient's location, be able to
19 provide the client with a list of nearby veterinarians who may be
20 able to see the animal patient in person upon the request of the
21 client, and keep, maintain, and make available a ~~copy~~ or summary
22 of the animal patient record, as specified in Section 4855.

23 (5) Provide the client with the veterinarian's name, contact
24 information, and license number.

25 (6) Secure an alternative means of contacting the client if the
26 electronic means is interrupted.

27 (i)

28 (h) (1) A veterinarian shall not prescribe a drug for a duration
29 of time that is inconsistent with the medical condition of the animal
30 patient or the type of drug prescribed.

31 ~~(2) A veterinarian who established the required~~
32 ~~veterinarian-client-patient relationship by examining the animal~~
33 ~~patient in person or by making medically appropriate and timely~~
34 ~~visits to the premises on which the animal patient is kept shall not~~
35 ~~prescribe a drug for a duration of time that is longer than one year~~
36 ~~from the date that the veterinarian examined the animal patient in~~
37 ~~person or visited the premises and prescribed the drug.~~

38 (2) *A veterinarian who prescribes a drug or medication shall*
39 *notify the client that some prescription drugs or medications may*

1 *be available at a pharmacy and, if requested, the veterinarian*
2 *shall submit a prescription to a pharmacy that the client chooses.*

3 (3) Except as provided in paragraphs (4) to ~~(8)~~; (6), inclusive,
4 a veterinarian who practices ~~veterinary medicine via telehealth~~
5 *telemedicine* may order, prescribe, or make available drugs, as
6 defined in Section 11014 of the Health and Safety Code, in
7 accordance with all relevant state and federal regulations.

8 ~~(4) A veterinarian who established the required~~
9 ~~veterinarian-client-patient relationship using synchronous~~
10 ~~audio-video communication shall not prescribe a drug to the animal~~
11 ~~patient for use for a period longer than six months from the date~~
12 ~~upon which the veterinarian examined the animal patient or~~
13 ~~prescribed the drug. The veterinarian shall not issue another~~
14 ~~prescription to the animal patient for the same drug unless they~~
15 ~~have conducted another examination of the animal patient, either~~
16 ~~in-person or using telehealth.~~

17 ~~(5) A veterinarian who established the required~~
18 ~~veterinarian-client-patient relationship using synchronous~~
19 ~~audio-video communication shall not prescribe an~~

20 ~~(4) An antimicrobial drug prescribed to the animal patient for~~
21 ~~a period longer than via telemedicine shall not exceed 14 days of~~
22 ~~treatment. The A veterinarian shall not issue any further~~
23 ~~antimicrobial drug prescription, including a refill, to treat the~~
24 ~~condition of the animal patient unless the veterinarian has~~
25 ~~conducted an in-person examination of the animal patient.~~

26 ~~(6) The~~

27 (5) A veterinarian shall not order, prescribe, or make available
28 a controlled substance, as defined in Section 4021, or xylazine,
29 unless the veterinarian has performed an in-person physical
30 examination of the animal patient or made medically appropriate
31 and timely visits to the premises where the animal patient is kept.

32 ~~(7) The veterinarian shall notify the client that some prescription~~
33 ~~drugs or medications may be available at a pharmacy and, if~~
34 ~~requested, the veterinarian shall submit a prescription to a~~
35 ~~pharmacy that the client chooses.~~

36 ~~(8)~~

37 (6) A veterinarian shall not prescribe via ~~telehealth~~ *telemedicine*
38 any drug or medication for use on a horse engaged in racing or
39 training at a facility under the jurisdiction of the California Horse

1 Racing Board pursuant to Chapter 4 (commencing with Section
2 19400) of Division 8.

3 ~~(j)~~

4 (i) As used in this section, “drug” means any controlled
5 substance, as defined in Section 4021, or any dangerous drug, as
6 defined in Section 4022.

7 ~~(k)~~

8 (j) A veterinarian is permitted to use ~~telehealth~~ *teletriage* without
9 establishing a veterinarian-client-patient-relationship in order to
10 ~~provide advice in an emergency, as defined in Section 4840.5.~~
11 *relationship.*

12 (k) *The veterinarian-client-patient relationship shall expire one*
13 *year after examining the animal patient pursuant to paragraph*
14 *(1) or (3) of subdivision (b) or six months after examining the*
15 *animal patient pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (b). Upon*
16 *expiration of the veterinarian-client-patient relationship, a new*
17 *veterinarian-client-patient relationship shall be established to*
18 *prescribe, dispense, or administer a drug, medicine, application,*
19 *or treatment of whatever nature for the prevention, cure, or relief*
20 *of a wound, fracture, bodily injury, or disease of the animal patient.*

21 (l) *A veterinarian-client-patient relationship may continue to*
22 *exist in the absence of the veterinarian if all of the following are*
23 *met:*

24 (1) *A veterinarian-client-patient relationship was established*
25 *with an original veterinarian, and a subsequent veterinarian serves*
26 *in the absence of the original veterinarian at the same location*
27 *where the medical records are kept.*

28 (2) *The subsequent veterinarian has assumed responsibility for*
29 *making medical judgments regarding the health of the animal*
30 *patient.*

31 (3) *The subsequent veterinarian has sufficient knowledge of the*
32 *animal patient to initiate at least a general or preliminary*
33 *diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal patient through*
34 *one of the following methods:*

35 (A) *Examining the animal patient in person.*

36 (B) *Examining the animal patient via telemedicine.*

37 (C) *Making medically appropriate and timely visits to the*
38 *premises where the animal patient is kept.*

39 (D) *Consulting with the original veterinarian who established*
40 *the veterinarian-client-patient relationship.*

1 (4) *The subsequent veterinarian has continued the medical,*
 2 *treatment, diagnostic, or therapeutic plan that was set forth and*
 3 *documented in the medical record by the original veterinarian.*

4 (5) *If the medical, treatment, diagnostic, or therapeutic plan*
 5 *differs from that which was communicated to the client or the*
 6 *client's agent by the original veterinarian, then the subsequent*
 7 *veterinarian has attempted to communicate the necessary changes*
 8 *with the client or the client's agent in a timely manner.*

9 (m) *In the absence of the originally prescribing veterinarian*
 10 *who established the veterinarian-client-patient relationship, a*
 11 *subsequent veterinarian may prescribe, dispense, or furnish a refill*
 12 *of drugs for use on the animal patient if either of the following*
 13 *applies:*

14 (1) *The drugs are prescribed, dispensed, or furnished on an*
 15 *emergency basis for a traveling animal patient only as necessary*
 16 *to maintain the health of the animal patient until the animal patient*
 17 *can return to the originally prescribing veterinarian. Before*
 18 *providing a prescription refill pursuant to this paragraph, the*
 19 *veterinarian shall make a reasonable effort to contact the originally*
 20 *prescribing veterinarian and document the communication with,*
 21 *or the attempt to contact, the originally prescribing veterinarian*
 22 *in the animal patient's medical record.*

23 (2) *The subsequent veterinarian serves at the same location as*
 24 *the originally prescribing veterinarian, who was unavailable to*
 25 *authorize the refill, and the subsequent veterinarian authorizing*
 26 *the refill does all of the following:*

- 27 (A) *Possesses and reviews the animal patient's records.*
- 28 (B) *Orders the refill of a medically indicated prescription for*
 29 *an amount not exceeding the original prescription in strength or*
 30 *amount and not exceeding more than one refill.*
- 31 (C) *Enters the prescription refill in the animal patient's medical*
 32 *records.*
- 33 (D) *In the subsequent veterinarian's professional judgment,*
 34 *determines that failure to refill the prescription might interrupt*
 35 *the animal patient's ongoing care and might have an adverse effect*
 36 *on the animal patient's well-being.*

37 SEC. 3. *Section 4827 of the Business and Professions Code is*
 38 *amended to read:*

39 4827. (a) Nothing in this chapter prohibits any person from:

1 (1) (A) Practicing veterinary medicine as a bona fide owner of
2 one's own animals, except for the procedures specified in Section
3 4826.8. This exemption applies to the following:

4 ~~(A)~~

5 (i) The owner's bona fide employees.

6 ~~(B)~~

7 (ii) Any person assisting the owner, provided that the practice
8 is performed gratuitously.

9 (B) *The exemption authorized under subparagraph (A) does not*
10 *include a surgical or dental operation upon an animal under*
11 *subdivision (d) of Section 4826.*

12 (C) *For purposes of this paragraph, an "operation" means any*
13 *procedure performed on an animal in which the skin or tissue of*
14 *the animal is penetrated or severed, but does not include any of*
15 *the following:*

16 (i) *Administering injectable drugs.*

17 (ii) *Artificial insemination.*

18 (iii) *Castrating male livestock or dehorning or branding*
19 *animals.*

20 (iv) *Inserting a microchip for identifying an animal.*

21 (v) *Placing an ear tag or tattoo for identifying an animal.*

22 (vi) *Venipuncture for diagnostic purposes.*

23 (2) Lay testing of poultry by the whole blood agglutination test.
24 For purposes of this section, "poultry" means flocks of avian
25 species maintained for food production, including, but not limited
26 to, chickens, turkeys, and exotic fowl.

27 (3) Making any determination as to the status of pregnancy,
28 sterility, or infertility upon livestock, equine, or food animals at
29 the time an animal is being inseminated, providing no charge is
30 made for this determination.

31 (4) Administering sodium pentobarbital for euthanasia of sick,
32 injured, homeless, or surrendered domestic pets or animals without
33 the presence of a veterinarian when the person is administering
34 the treatment in their capacity as an employee of an animal control
35 shelter and its agencies or humane society and has received proper
36 training in the administration of sodium pentobarbital for these
37 purposes.

38 (5) Providing the following care to animals lawfully deposited
39 with or impounded by a shelter not registered with the board
40 pursuant to Section 4853:

1 (A) Administering preventative or prophylactic nonprescription
2 vaccinations to the animal pursuant to protocols written by a
3 veterinarian licensed in this state for the purposes of preventing
4 the spread of communicable diseases, without the presence of a
5 veterinarian when the person has received proper training in the
6 administration of the nonprescription preventative or prophylactic
7 vaccinations.

8 (B) Administering nonprescription medications to the animal
9 pursuant to protocols written by a veterinarian licensed in this
10 state, for the control or eradication of apparent or anticipated
11 internal or external parasites, including, but not limited to, fleas,
12 ticks, or worms, without the presence of a veterinarian when the
13 person has received proper training in the administration of the
14 nonprescription medications for the control or eradication of those
15 internal or external parasites. A person's decision to administer
16 these medications shall not be construed to mean the person has
17 made a diagnosis of the animal's medical condition.

18 (C) Administering medications prescribed by a veterinarian
19 licensed in the state to the animal without the presence of a
20 veterinarian when the shelter has received a written treatment plan
21 from the licensed veterinarian for that specific animal and has a
22 dispensing protocol in place for the tracking of dispensed
23 prescribed medications and when the person has received proper
24 training in the administration of prescription medications.

25 (b) For the purposes of paragraph (5) of subdivision (a):

26 (1) "Proper training" means completing a training curriculum
27 of at least four hours provided by a veterinarian licensed to practice
28 in this state, and includes, but is not limited to, an overview of
29 intake procedures and preventative medicine, recognizing when
30 an animal is required to be seen by a veterinarian, prescription and
31 nonprescription medications, humane animal restraint techniques,
32 vaccination injection methods and procedures, and documentation.

33 (2) "Shelter" means a public animal control agency or shelter,
34 society for the prevention of cruelty to animals shelter, or humane
35 society shelter that is not registered with the board pursuant to
36 Section 4853.

37 (c) A shelter providing care to an animal pursuant to this section
38 that is not registered with the board pursuant to Section 4853 shall
39 report to the board any adverse event resulting in significant
40 impairment or death from the care provided, on a form prescribed

1 by the board, including severe injuries, infections, and unintended
2 reactions caused by the incorrect or inappropriate administration
3 of a vaccine or medications.

4 *SEC. 4. Section 4830 of the Business and Professions Code is*
5 *amended to read:*

6 4830. (a) This chapter does not apply to:

7 (1) Veterinarians while serving in any armed branch of the
8 military service of the United States or the United States
9 Department of Agriculture while actually engaged and employed
10 in their official capacity.

11 (2) Veterinarians holding a current, valid license in good
12 standing in another state or country who provide assistance *through*
13 *any means, including via teleconsultation*, to a California-licensed
14 veterinarian and attend on a specific case. The California-licensed
15 veterinarian shall maintain a valid veterinarian-client-patient
16 relationship. The veterinarian providing the assistance shall not
17 establish a veterinarian-client-patient relationship with the client
18 by attending the case or at a future time and shall not practice
19 veterinary medicine, open an office, appoint a place to meet
20 patients, communicate with clients who reside within the limits of
21 this state, give orders, or have ultimate authority over the care or
22 primary diagnosis of a patient that is located within this state.

23 (3) Veterinarians called into the state by a law enforcement
24 agency or animal control agency pursuant to subdivision (b).

25 (4) A student of a veterinary medical program accredited by the
26 American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education
27 who participates as part of the student's formal curriculum in the
28 diagnosis and treatment with direct supervision by a
29 California-licensed veterinarian, or in surgery with immediate
30 supervision by a California-licensed veterinarian, provided all of
31 the following requirements are met:

32 (A) The clinical training site has been approved by the university
33 where the student is enrolled.

34 (B) The student has prior training in diagnosis, treatment, and
35 surgery as part of the formal curriculum.

36 (5) A veterinarian who is employed by the Meat and Poultry
37 Inspection Branch of the California Department of Food and
38 Agriculture while actually engaged and employed in the
39 veterinarian's official capacity. A person exempt under this

1 paragraph shall not otherwise engage in the practice of veterinary
2 medicine unless the person is issued a license by the board.

3 (6) Unlicensed personnel employed by the Department of Food
4 and Agriculture or the United States Department of Agriculture
5 when in the course of their duties they are directed by a veterinarian
6 supervisor to conduct an examination, obtain biological specimens,
7 apply biological tests, or administer medications or biological
8 products as part of government disease or condition monitoring,
9 investigation, control, or eradication activities.

10 (7) *A person who is not licensed pursuant to this chapter who*
11 *provides teleconsultation to a California-licensed veterinarian.*

12 (b) (1) For purposes of paragraph (3) of subdivision (a), a
13 regularly licensed veterinarian in good standing who is called from
14 another state by a law enforcement agency or animal control
15 agency, as defined in Section 31606 of the Food and Agricultural
16 Code, to attend to cases that are a part of an investigation of an
17 alleged violation of federal or state animal fighting or animal
18 cruelty laws within a single geographic location shall be exempt
19 from the licensing requirements of this chapter if the law
20 enforcement agency or animal control agency determines that it
21 is necessary to call the veterinarian in order for the agency or
22 officer to conduct the investigation in a timely, efficient, and
23 effective manner. In determining whether it is necessary to call a
24 veterinarian from another state, consideration shall be given to the
25 availability of veterinarians in this state to attend to these cases.
26 An agency, department, or officer that calls a veterinarian pursuant
27 to this subdivision shall notify the board of the investigation.

28 (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, a
29 regularly licensed veterinarian in good standing who is called from
30 another state to attend to cases that are a part of an investigation
31 described in paragraph (1) may provide veterinary medical care
32 for animals that are affected by the investigation with a temporary
33 shelter facility, and the temporary shelter facility shall be exempt
34 from the registration requirement of Section 4853 if all of the
35 following conditions are met:

36 (A) The temporary shelter facility is established only for the
37 purpose of the investigation.

38 (B) The temporary shelter facility provides veterinary medical
39 care, shelter, food, and water only to animals that are affected by
40 the investigation.

1 (C) The temporary shelter facility complies with Section 4854.

2 (D) The temporary shelter facility exists for not more than 60
3 days, unless the law enforcement agency or animal control agency
4 determines that a longer period of time is necessary to complete
5 the investigation.

6 (E) Within 30 calendar days upon completion of the provision
7 of veterinary health care services at a temporary shelter facility
8 established pursuant to this section, the veterinarian called from
9 another state by a law enforcement agency or animal control agency
10 to attend to a case shall file a report with the board. The report
11 shall contain the date, place, type, and general description of the
12 care provided, along with a listing of the veterinary health care
13 practitioners who participated in providing that care.

14 (c) For purposes of paragraph (3) of subdivision (a), the board
15 may inspect temporary facilities established pursuant to this
16 section.

17 *SEC. 5. Section 4840.5 of the Business and Professions Code*
18 *is amended to read:*

19 4840.5. Under conditions of an emergency, a registered
20 veterinary technician may render ~~such~~ lifesaving aid and treatment
21 *through any means, including via teletriage*, as may be prescribed
22 under regulations adopted by the board pursuant to Section 4836.
23 ~~Such That~~ emergency aid and ~~treatment~~ *treatment*, if rendered to
24 an animal patient not in the presence of a licensed ~~veterinarian~~
25 *veterinarian*, may only be continued under the direction of a
26 licensed veterinarian. ~~“Emergency”~~ *“Emergency,”* for the purpose
27 of this section, means that the animal has been placed in a
28 life-threatening condition ~~where~~ *in which* immediate treatment is
29 necessary.

30 *SEC. 6. Section 4843.5 of the Business and Professions Code*
31 *is repealed.*

32 ~~4843.5. Except as otherwise provided in this article, an expired~~
33 ~~certificate of registration may be renewed at any time within five~~
34 ~~years after its expiration on filing of an application for renewal on~~
35 ~~a form prescribed by the board, and payment of all accrued and~~
36 ~~unpaid renewal fees. If the certificate of registration is renewed~~
37 ~~more than 30 days after its expiration, the registrant, as a condition~~
38 ~~precedent to renewal, shall also pay the delinquency fee prescribed~~
39 ~~by this article. Renewal under this section shall be effective on the~~
40 ~~date on which the application is filed, on the date all renewal fees~~

1 are paid, or on the date on which the delinquency fee, if any, is
2 paid, whichever occurs last.

3 *SEC. 7. Section 4844 of the Business and Professions Code is*
4 *repealed.*

5 4844. A person who fails to renew his certificate of registration
6 within five years after its expiration may not renew it, and it shall
7 not be restored, reissued, or reinstated thereafter, but that person
8 may apply for and obtain a new certificate of registration if:

9 (a) He or she is not subject to denial of registration under Section
10 480.

11 (b) No fact, circumstance, or condition exists which, if the
12 certificate of registration were issued, would justify its revocation
13 or suspension.

14 (c) He or she takes and passes the examination, if any, that
15 would be required of him or her if he or she were then applying
16 for a certificate of registration for the first time, or otherwise
17 establishes to the satisfaction of the board that, with due regard
18 for the public interest, he or she is qualified to be a registered
19 veterinary technician.

20 (d) He or she pays all of the fees that would be required of him
21 or her if he or she were applying for the certificate of registration
22 for the first time.

23 The board may, by regulation, provide for the waiver or refund
24 of all or any part of the examination fee when a certificate of
25 registration is issued without an examination pursuant to this
26 section.

27 *SEC. 8. Section 4846.3 is added to the Business and Professions*
28 *Code, to read:*

29 4846.3. (a) To obtain a retired status, a veterinarian or
30 registered veterinary technician shall complete a board-provided
31 application and pay the applicable fee specified in Section 4905.

32 (b) A retired status shall not be granted while there is a pending
33 complaint, investigation, or enforcement action against the licensee
34 or registrant, or the license or registration is revoked, surrendered,
35 or subject to term and conditions of probation.

36 (c) A licensee or registrant with retired status shall not practice
37 veterinary medicine.

38 (d) A licensee or registrant with retired status shall use their
39 professional title only with the unabbreviated word "retired"
40 directly preceding or directly following their professional title.

1 (e) The board may investigate potential violations of this chapter
2 or take action against a licensee or registrant with retired status
3 for a violation of this chapter.

4 (f) A licensee or registrant with retired status shall be exempt
5 from renewal requirements and shall not be subject to delinquency
6 fees or accrued and unpaid renewal fees pursuant to Section 121.5.

7 SEC. 9. Section 4846.4 is added to the Business and Professions
8 Code, to read:

9 4846.4. (a) To obtain a retired volunteer status, a veterinarian
10 or registered veterinary technician shall meet all of the following
11 requirements:

12 (1) Complete an application provided by the board.

13 (2) Certify that the sole purpose of the retired volunteer status
14 is to provide voluntary, unpaid, veterinary medical services to an
15 animal shelter.

16 (3) Pay the applicable fee specified in Section 4905.

17 (4) Disclose each state, Canadian province, or United States
18 territory in which the applicant currently holds or has ever held
19 a license, registration, permit, or certificate to practice veterinary
20 medicine. The license, registration, permit, or certificate
21 verification, including any disciplinary or enforcement history,
22 shall be confirmed by the board through electronic means or direct
23 submission from each state, Canadian province, or United States
24 territory in which the applicant has identified the applicant holds
25 or has ever held a license, registration, permit, or certificate to
26 practice veterinary medicine.

27 (5) Hold one of the following:

28 (A) A California license or registration that is active or was
29 placed in retired or expired status within the last five years.

30 (B) A California license or registration placed in retired or
31 expired status more than five years ago or a veterinarian license
32 or veterinary technician registration in any state, Canadian
33 province, or United States territory. Applicants applying under
34 this subparagraph shall also do all of the following:

35 (i) Submit a full set of fingerprints for the purpose of conducting
36 a criminal history record check and undergo a state and federal
37 criminal offender record information search conducted through
38 the Department of Justice, pursuant to subdivision (u) of Section
39 11105 of the Penal Code. The Department of Justice shall provide

- 1 a state or federal response to the board pursuant to paragraph
2 (1) of subdivision (p) of Section 11105 of the Penal Code.
- 3 (ii) Certify completion of the required number of continuing
4 education hours pursuant to Article 3.1 (commencing with Section
5 4858).
- 6 (iii) Veterinarians shall also pass an examination administered
7 by the board concerning the statutes and regulations of this chapter
8 pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (5) of subdivision (a)
9 of Section 4846.
- 10 (b) The application for retired volunteer status shall be subject
11 to denial in accordance with Sections 480 and 4883.
- 12 (c) An application for retired volunteer status shall not be
13 granted while there is a pending complaint, investigation, or
14 enforcement action against the licensee or registrant.
- 15 (d) A licensee or registrant with retired volunteer status shall
16 not practice veterinary medicine in any circumstance other than
17 for an animal shelter or pursuant to Section 4826.1, 4826.4,
18 4840.5, or 4840.6, as applicable. A licensee or registrant with
19 retired volunteer status shall only practice veterinary medicine
20 within their scope of practice authorized by this chapter.
- 21 (e) In addition to complying with the renewal requirements
22 specified in Section 4900, the licensee or registrant with retired
23 volunteer status shall certify that the sole purpose of the retired
24 volunteer status is to provide voluntary, unpaid veterinary medical
25 services for an animal shelter.
- 26 (f) An out-of-state veterinarian license or veterinary technician
27 registration with retired volunteer status pursuant to subparagraph
28 (B) of paragraph (5) of subdivision (a) shall not qualify for license
29 restoration under Section 4901 or 4902.
- 30 (g) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the
31 following meanings:
- 32 (1) "Animal shelter" means a public animal control agency or
33 shelter, society for the prevention of cruelty to animals shelter,
34 humane society shelter, or rescue group.
- 35 (2) "Rescue group" means a nonprofit entity that removes
36 animals from a public animal control agency or shelter, society
37 for the prevention of cruelty to animals shelter, or humane shelter,
38 or rehomes an animal that has been previously owned by any
39 person other than the original breeder of that animal.

1 SEC. 10. Section 4848.2 is added to the Business and
2 Professions Code, to read:

3 4848.2. (a) An individual engaged in the practice of veterinary
4 medicine, as defined in Section 4826, as a veterinarian for an
5 animal shelter shall hold a shelter veterinarian license issued
6 pursuant to this section or a license to practice veterinary medicine
7 issued pursuant to Section 4846.

8 (b) To obtain a shelter veterinarian license, an individual shall
9 meet the following requirements:

10 (1) Be employed by or contract with an animal shelter to provide
11 veterinary medical services.

12 (2) Complete a board-approved application.

13 (3) Certify that the sole purpose of the shelter veterinarian
14 license is to practice veterinary medicine for an animal shelter.

15 (4) Pay the applicable fee specified in Section 4905.

16 (5) Submit a full set of fingerprints for the purpose of conducting
17 a criminal history record check and undergo a state and federal
18 criminal offender record information search conducted through
19 the Department of Justice, pursuant to subdivision (u) of Section
20 11105 of the Penal Code. The Department of Justice shall provide
21 a state or federal response to the board pursuant to paragraph
22 (1) of subdivision (p) of Section 11105 of the Penal Code.

23 (6) Pass an examination concerning the statutes and regulations
24 of this chapter, administered by the board, pursuant to
25 subparagraph (B) of paragraph (5) of subdivision (a) of Section
26 4846.

27 (7) Disclose each state, Canadian province, or United States
28 territory in which the applicant currently holds or has ever held
29 a license, registration, permit, or certificate to practice veterinary
30 medicine. The license, registration, permit, or certificate
31 verification, including any disciplinary or enforcement history,
32 shall be confirmed by the board through electronic means or direct
33 submission from each state, Canadian province, or United States
34 territory in which the applicant has identified the applicant holds
35 or has ever held a license, registration, permit, or certificate to
36 practice veterinary medicine.

37 (8) Hold a current, valid veterinarian license in any state,
38 Canadian province or United States territory.

39 (c) All of the following apply to a shelter veterinarian license:

1 (1) It is subject to denial, revocation, or suspension pursuant
2 to Sections 480 and 4883.

3 (2) It may be renewed if all of the following requirements are
4 met:

5 (A) Satisfaction of the license renewal provisions in Section
6 4900.

7 (B) Payment of the renewal fee pursuant to Section 4905.

8 (C) Completion of continuing education required under Article
9 3.1 (commencing with Section 4858).

10 (D) Certification that the sole purpose of the shelter veterinarian
11 license is to practice veterinary medicine for an animal shelter.

12 (d) A shelter veterinarian licensee shall not practice veterinary
13 medicine in any circumstance other than for an animal shelter or
14 pursuant to Section 4826.1 or 4826.4.

15 (e) For purposes of this section, “animal shelter” has the same
16 meaning as that term is defined in subdivision (g) of Section
17 4846.4.

18 SEC. 11. Section 4858 of the Business and Professions Code
19 is amended to read:

20 4858. (a) Except for the first renewal period, all holders of
21 veterinarian licenses and veterinary technician registrations issued
22 under the provisions of this chapter shall obtain continuing
23 education relevant to developments in the practice of veterinary
24 medicine.

25 (b) A person applying for renewal of their license or registration
26 ~~in~~ or restoration of their license or registration to active status
27 shall certify, under penalty of perjury, that they are in compliance
28 with this article, as applicable.

29 (c) The board shall have the right to audit the records of all
30 applicants to verify the completion of the continuing education
31 requirement. Applicants shall maintain records of completion of
32 required continuing education coursework for a period of four
33 years and shall make these records available to the board upon
34 request for auditing purposes. If the board, during this audit,
35 questions whether any course reported by the applicant satisfies
36 the continuing education requirement, the applicant shall provide
37 information to the board concerning the content of the course,
38 course hours, and the name of its sponsor and cosponsor.

1 (d) An applicant may apply for an inactive license or to restore
2 an inactive license under the provisions of Article 9 (commencing
3 with Section 700) of Chapter 1.

4 (e) Notwithstanding Section 4858.1, the board, in its discretion,
5 may exempt from the continuing education requirement an
6 applicant who for reasons of health, military service, or undue
7 hardship cannot meet those requirements. Applications for waivers
8 shall be submitted on a form provided by the board.

9 *SEC. 12. Section 4858.1 of the Business and Professions Code*
10 *is amended to read:*

11 4858.1. (a) The board shall issue renewed *or restored*
12 veterinarian licenses only to those applicants who have completed
13 a minimum of 36 hours of continuing education in the preceding
14 two years.

15 (b) Continuing education hours for veterinarians shall be earned
16 as follows:

17 (1) Attending courses relevant to veterinary medicine and
18 sponsored or cosponsored by any of the following:

19 (A) The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA),
20 its accredited veterinary medical colleges, or its recognized
21 specialty or affiliated allied groups or educational organizations.

22 (B) State veterinary medical associations or their affiliated
23 associations or educational organizations.

24 (C) Federal, state, or local government agencies.

25 (D) Providers accredited, approved, or recognized by the
26 Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education
27 (ACCME), American Medical Association (AMA), American
28 Dental Association Continuing Education Recognition Program
29 (ADA CERP), or American Association of Veterinary State Boards
30 (AAVSB).

31 (2) A total of 6 hours or fewer of the required 36 hours of
32 continuing education may be earned by doing either of the
33 following, or a combination thereof:

34 (A) Up to six hours may be earned by taking self-study courses,
35 which may include, but are not limited to, reading journals, viewing
36 video recordings, or listening to audio recordings.

37 (B) Up to four hours may be earned by providing pro bono
38 spaying or neutering services for a public animal control agency
39 or shelter, society for the prevention of cruelty to animals shelter,

1 humane society shelter, or rescue group in compliance with the
2 following:

3 (i) The services shall be performed at a veterinary premises
4 registered with the board pursuant to Section 4853.

5 (ii) Proof of completion of continuing education pursuant to
6 this subparagraph shall be documented by the director or
7 administrator of the public animal control agency or shelter, society
8 for the prevention of cruelty to animals shelter, humane society
9 shelter, or rescue group, with a copy provided to the veterinarian,
10 and include the date of performing the spaying and neutering
11 services, the name, address, and telephone number of the entity
12 for which the spaying and neutering services were provided, and
13 the name, address, and veterinary premises registration where the
14 spaying and neutering services were performed.

15 (3) A veterinarian who teaches a course specified in
16 subparagraphs (A) to (D), inclusive, of paragraph (1) of subdivision
17 (b) may receive continuing education credit for the course one
18 time during a renewal period.

19 (4) Up to 16 hours of continuing education credit may be earned
20 by participating as an expert in an examination preparation
21 workshop for the national licensing examination.

22 (5) Up to 24 hours of continuing education credit may be earned
23 for completing courses in business practice management or licensee
24 mental health and wellness and its impact on the delivery of
25 veterinary services.

26 (6) Up to one hour of continuing education credit may be earned
27 by passing the Veterinary Law Examination (VLE).

28 (7) Up to two hours of continuing education credit may be
29 earned by attending a board of Veterinary Medicine
30 Multidisciplinary Advisory Committee meeting, as verified by the
31 board.

32 (c) Providers offering continuing education courses pursuant to
33 paragraph (1) or (2) of subdivision (b) shall comply with the
34 requirements of Section 4858.3.

35 (d) For good cause, the board may adopt an order specifying,
36 on a prospective basis, that a course provider authorized pursuant
37 to paragraph (1) or (2) of subdivision (b) is no longer an acceptable
38 provider.

39 (e) (1) A licensed veterinarian who renews their license shall
40 complete a minimum of one credit hour of continuing education

1 on the judicious use of medically important antimicrobial drugs
2 every four years as part of their continuing education requirements.

3 (2) For purposes of this subdivision, “medically important
4 antimicrobial drug” means an antimicrobial drug listed in Appendix
5 A of the federal Food and Drug Administration’s Guidance for
6 Industry #152, including critically important, highly important,
7 and important antimicrobial drugs, as that appendix may be
8 amended.

9 *SEC. 13. Section 4858.2 of the Business and Professions Code*
10 *is amended to read:*

11 4858.2. (a) The board shall issue renewed *or restored*
12 veterinary technician registrations only to those applicants who
13 have completed a minimum of 20 hours of continuing education
14 in the preceding two years.

15 (b) Continuing education hours for registered veterinary
16 technicians shall be earned as follows:

17 (1) Attending courses provided by those specified in
18 subparagraphs (A) to (D), inclusive, of paragraph (1) of subdivision
19 (b) of Section 4858.1 or sponsored or cosponsored by one of the
20 following:

21 (A) National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America
22 (NAVTA) recognized veterinary technician specialty organizations.

23 (B) State veterinary technician associations recognized by the
24 secretary of state in that state.

25 (2) Up to 4 hours of the required 20 hours of continuing
26 education may be earned by doing either of the following, or a
27 combination thereof:

28 (A) Up to four hours may be earned by taking self-study courses,
29 which may include, but are not limited to, reading journals, viewing
30 video recordings, or listening to audio recordings.

31 (B) Up to two hours may be earned by performing pro bono
32 animal health care tasks related to spaying or neutering services
33 for a public animal control agency or shelter, society for the
34 prevention of cruelty to animals shelter, humane society shelter,
35 or rescue group in compliance with the following:

36 (i) The services shall be performed under the direct supervision
37 of a licensed veterinarian at a veterinary premises registered with
38 the board pursuant to Section 4853.

39 (ii) Proof of completion of continuing education pursuant to
40 this subparagraph shall be documented, with a copy provided to

1 the registered veterinary technician, by the supervising veterinarian
2 and include the date of performance of animal health care tasks,
3 the name, address, and telephone number of the entity for which
4 the animal health care tasks were provided, the name and
5 veterinarian license number of the supervising veterinarian, and
6 the name, address, and veterinary premises registration where the
7 animal health care tasks were performed.

8 (3) A registered veterinary technician who teaches a course
9 described in paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) may receive
10 continuing education credit for the course one time during a
11 renewal period.

12 (4) Up to nine hours of continuing education credit may be
13 earned by participating as an expert in an examination preparation
14 workshop for the national licensing examination.

15 (5) Up to 13 hours of continuing education credit may be earned
16 for completing courses in business practice management or mental
17 health and wellness and its impact on the delivery of veterinary
18 services.

19 (6) Up to one hour of continuing education credit may be earned
20 by passing the Veterinary Law Examination.

21 (7) Up to two hours of continuing education credit may be
22 earned by attending a board or Veterinary Medicine
23 Multidisciplinary Advisory Committee meeting, as verified by the
24 board.

25 (c) Providers offering continuing education courses pursuant to
26 paragraph (1) or (2) of subdivision (b) shall comply with the
27 requirements of Section 4858.3.

28 (d) For good cause, the board may adopt an order specifying,
29 on a prospective basis, that a continuing education source
30 authorized pursuant to paragraph (1) or (2) of subdivision (b) is
31 no longer an acceptable source.

32 *SEC. 14. Section 4900 of the Business and Professions Code*
33 *is amended to read:*

34 4900. (a) All ~~veterinary~~ *veterinarian* licenses, veterinary
35 technician registrations, and veterinary assistant controlled
36 substance ~~permits~~, *permits* shall expire at 12 midnight of the last
37 day of the month in which the license was issued during the second
38 year of a two-year term if not renewed.

1 (b) (1) All premises registrations shall expire annually at 12
2 midnight of the last day of the month in which the ~~license premises~~
3 *registration* was issued, unless renewed.

4 (2) *To renew a premises registration, the premises registration*
5 *holder shall satisfy the requirements of subdivisions (c), (d), and*
6 *(e) of Section 4853 and confirm that the information provided to*
7 *the board is current and valid.*

8 (c) To renew an unexpired license, registration, or permit, the
9 licensee, registrant, or permitholder shall, on or before the date of
10 expiration of the license or registration, apply for renewal on a
11 form provided by the board, accompanied by the prescribed
12 renewal fee. The renewal application shall contain a statement to
13 the effect that the applicant has not been convicted of a felony or
14 misdemeanor, has not been the subject of professional disciplinary
15 action taken by any public agency in ~~California or any other~~ *any*
16 state or territory, and has not violated any of the provisions of this
17 chapter. If the applicant is unable to make that statement, the
18 application shall contain a statement of the conviction, professional
19 discipline, or violation.

20 (d) Each licensee, registrant, and permitholder who has an
21 electronic mail address shall report to the board that electronic
22 mail address during the time of renewal and confirm that the
23 electronic mail address and address of record is current and valid.
24 The electronic mail address shall be considered confidential and
25 not subject to public disclosure.

26 *SEC. 15. Section 4901 of the Business and Professions Code*
27 *is amended to read:*

28 4901. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, an expired
29 ~~license or registration~~ *license, retired license, registration, or*
30 *permit may be renewed or restored to active status at any time*
31 *within five years after its expiration* ~~on filing of~~ *by filing an*
32 *application for renewal or the restoration on a form prescribed by*
33 *the board, and payment of paying all accrued and unpaid renewal*
34 *fees. fees or the restoration fee, and complying with the continuing*
35 *education requirements pursuant to Article 3.1 (commencing with*
36 *Section 4858).* If the ~~license or registration~~ *license, registration,*
37 *or permit* is renewed more than 30 days after its expiration, the
38 ~~licensee or registrant,~~ *licensee, registrant, or permitholder,* as a
39 condition precedent to renewal, shall also pay the delinquency fee
40 prescribed by this chapter. *Renewal or restoration to active status*

1 under this section shall be effective on the date on which the
 2 application is filed, on the date on which If so renewed, the license
 3 or registration shall continue in effect through the expiration date
 4 provided in Section 4900 that next occurs after the effective date
 5 of the renewal, when it shall expire if it is not again renewed. *all*
 6 *renewal or restoration requirements, as applicable, are satisfied.*
 7 *If so renewed or restored to active status, the license, registration,*
 8 *or permit shall continue in effect as provided in Section 4900.*

9 *SEC. 16. Section 4902 of the Business and Professions Code*
 10 *is amended to read:*

11 4902. (a) A license, registration, or permit that is not renewed
 12 within five years after its expiration shall be canceled and shall
 13 not be renewed, ~~restored,~~ reissued, or reinstated ~~thereafter,~~ but
 14 *unless* the licensee, registrant, or permitholder ~~may apply for and~~
 15 ~~obtain a new license, registration, or permit if the person applies~~
 16 ~~for a license, registration, or permit as a new applicant and meets~~
 17 ~~all of the requirements for initial issuance of the license,~~
 18 ~~registration, or permit.~~

19 (b) *A license or registration that has been assigned retired status*
 20 *pursuant to Section 4846.3 for five years or more shall not be*
 21 *restored to active status unless the licensee or registrant meets all*
 22 *of the requirements for initial issuance of the license or*
 23 *registration.*

24 *SEC. 17. Section 4905 of the Business and Professions Code*
 25 *is amended to read:*

26 4905. (a) For purposes of this section, the following definitions
 27 apply:

28 (1) “Small veterinary premises” means a veterinary premises
 29 where up to three full-time equivalent veterinarians provide
 30 veterinary services.

31 (2) “Medium veterinary premises” means a veterinary premises
 32 where four to eight full-time equivalent veterinarians provide
 33 veterinary services.

34 (3) “Large veterinary premises” means a veterinary premises
 35 where nine or more full-time equivalent veterinarians provide
 36 veterinary services.

37 (b) The following fees shall be collected by the board and shall
 38 be credited to the California Veterinary Medical Board Contingent
 39 Fund:

- 1 (1) The veterinarian license application fee shall not exceed five
2 hundred forty dollars (\$540).
- 3 (2) The California Veterinary Medicine Practice Act course fee
4 shall not exceed one hundred fifty-five dollars (\$155).
- 5 (3) The initial veterinarian license fee shall not exceed eight
6 hundred dollars (\$800).
- 7 (4) The biennial veterinarian license renewal fee shall not exceed
8 eight hundred dollars (\$800).
- 9 (5) The university licensee application fee shall not exceed five
10 hundred forty dollars (\$540).
- 11 (6) The initial university license fee shall not exceed eight
12 hundred dollars (\$800).
- 13 (7) The biennial university licensee renewal fee shall not exceed
14 eight hundred dollars (\$800).
- 15 (8) The initial small veterinary premises registration fee shall
16 not exceed eight hundred forty dollars (\$840) annually.
- 17 (9) The annual small veterinary premises registration renewal
18 fee shall not exceed nine hundred ten dollars (\$910).
- 19 (10) The initial medium veterinary premises registration fee
20 shall not exceed one thousand one hundred twenty dollars (\$1,120).
- 21 (11) The annual medium veterinary premises registration
22 renewal fee shall not exceed one thousand one hundred ninety
23 dollars (\$1,190).
- 24 (12) The initial large veterinary premises registration fee shall
25 not exceed one thousand six hundred seventy-five dollars (\$1,675).
- 26 (13) The annual large veterinary premises registration renewal
27 fee shall not exceed one thousand seven hundred forty-five dollars
28 (\$1,745).
- 29 (14) The registered veterinary technician application fee shall
30 not exceed three hundred dollars (\$300).
- 31 (15) The initial registered veterinary technician registration fee
32 shall not exceed three hundred dollars (\$300).
- 33 (16) The biennial registered veterinary technician renewal fee
34 shall not exceed three hundred dollars (\$300).
- 35 (17) The veterinary assistant controlled substance permit
36 application fee shall not exceed three hundred dollars (\$300).
- 37 (18) The veterinary assistant controlled substance permit fee
38 shall not exceed three hundred dollars (\$300).
- 39 (19) The biennial veterinary assistant controlled substance
40 permit renewal fee shall not exceed three hundred dollars (\$300).

1 (20) All license, registration, and permit delinquency fees shall
2 be 50 percent of the renewal fee in effect on the date of the renewal,
3 but shall not be less than fifty dollars (\$50) nor more than one
4 hundred fifty dollars (\$150).

5 (21) *The application fee for retired status of a veterinarian*
6 *license or veterinary technician registration shall not be less than*
7 *twenty-five dollars (\$25) nor more than fifty dollars (\$50).*

8 (22) *The application fee for retired volunteer status shall not*
9 *be less than fifty dollars (\$50) nor more than one hundred dollars*
10 *(\$100).*

11 (23) *The biennial renewal fee for a license or registration with*
12 *retired volunteer status shall not be less than fifty dollars (\$50)*
13 *nor more than one hundred dollars (\$100).*

14 (24) *The fee to restore a license or registration from retired*
15 *status or retired volunteer status to active status shall not be less*
16 *than fifty dollars (\$50) nor more than one hundred dollars (\$100).*

17 (25) *The shelter veterinarian license application fee shall not*
18 *be less than three hundred fifty dollars (\$350) nor more than five*
19 *hundred forty dollars (\$540).*

20 (26) *The initial shelter veterinarian license fee shall not be less*
21 *than five hundred dollars (\$500) nor more than eight hundred*
22 *dollars (\$800).*

23 (27) *The biennial shelter veterinarian license renewal fee shall*
24 *not be less than five hundred dollars (\$500) nor more than eight*
25 *hundred dollars (\$800).*

26 *SEC. 18. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant*
27 *to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because*
28 *the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school*
29 *district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or*
30 *infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty*
31 *for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of*
32 *the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within*
33 *the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California*
34 *Constitution.*

35 ~~SECTION 1. Section 8775 of the Business and Professions~~
36 ~~Code is amended to read:~~

37 ~~8775. No person shall use the title or any abbreviation of the~~
38 ~~title photogrammetrist or photogrammetric surveyor, unless they~~

- 1 ~~hold registration as a civil engineer or licensed land surveyor or~~
- 2 ~~they are licensed as a photogrammetric surveyor.~~

O

AB 2287 (Rodriguez-D)
Contractors: disciplinary actions

Status/History: 3/9/26 – Committee on Business and Professions

Location: Assembly Committee on Business and Professions

Introduced: 2/19/2026

Board Position: 3/5/26 - Oppose Unless Amended

Board Staff Analysis: 4/24/26

Bill Summary: Existing law, the Contractors State License Law, establishes the Contractors State License Board (CSLB) to license and regulate contractors. Existing law makes the willful or deliberate disregard and violation of the building laws of the state or of specified other provisions of law a cause for disciplinary action against a licensee.

Notwithstanding this provision, this bill would provide that a licensee who engages in the use of technologies, tools, and equipment in the course of performing construction work pursuant to the Contractors' State License Law is not subject to a cause for disciplinary action against themselves.

Staff Comment: It appears that this bill has been introduced as a response to issues raised in the introduction of AB 1341 (2025), which would have made a contractor subject to disciplinary action for the illegal practice of engineering, geology, geophysics, or land surveying. Issues raised by opponents to the AB 1341 last year concerned the use of tools in the performance of construction work. Additionally, those same opponents stated that if the proposed AB 1341 language passed, CSLB would be subject to a very large volume of complaints while simultaneously stating that they (opponents) were not operating outside the authority of their contractor license.

It is unknown what is encompassed within the term "...use of technologies, tools, or equipment..." or what the definition of "construction work" means as it relates to this proposal.

As stated many times, the Board does not regulate or license "tools", "technologies", or "equipment". The Board regulates conduct and actions offered, procured, performed, or otherwise defined as the practice of engineering, geology, geophysics, or land surveying, regardless of which tools, technologies, or equipment is used in the course of performing those activities.

3/23/26 – Update: Hearing canceled at the request of Author.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends the Board continue to take an Oppose Unless Amended position on AB 2287 as introduced on February 19, 2026, should this bill proceed.

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2287

Introduced by Assembly Member Michelle Rodriguez

February 19, 2026

An act to amend Section 7110 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to contractors.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2287, as introduced, Michelle Rodriguez. Contractors: disciplinary action.

Existing law, the Contractors State License Law, establishes the Contractors State License Board to license and regulate contractors. Existing law makes the willful or deliberate disregard and violation of the building laws of the state or of specified other provisions of law a cause for disciplinary action against a licensee.

Notwithstanding this provision, this bill would provide that a licensee who engages in the use of technologies, tools, and equipment in the course of performing construction work pursuant to the Contractors' State License Law is not subject to a cause for disciplinary action against themselves.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 7110 of the Business and Professions
- 2 Code is amended to read:
- 3 7110. (a) Willful or deliberate disregard and violation of the
- 4 building laws of the state, or of any political subdivision thereof,

- 1 or of any of the following references to or provisions of law,
2 constitutes a cause for disciplinary action against a licensee:
- 3 ~~(a)~~
 - 4 (1) Section 8550 or 8556.
 - 5 ~~(b)~~
 - 6 (2) Sections 1689.5 to 1689.15, inclusive, of the Civil Code.
 - 7 ~~(c)~~
 - 8 (3) The safety laws or labor laws or compensation insurance
9 laws or Unemployment Insurance Code of the state.
 - 10 ~~(d)~~
 - 11 (4) The Subletting and Subcontracting Fair Practices Act
12 (Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 4100) of Part 1 of Division
13 2 of the Public Contract Code).
 - 14 ~~(e)~~
 - 15 (5) Any provision of the Health and Safety Code or Water Code,
16 relating to the digging, boring, or drilling of water wells.
 - 17 ~~(f)~~
 - 18 (6) Any provision of Article 2 (commencing with Section 4216)
19 of Chapter 3.1 of Division 5 of Title 1 of the Government Code.
 - 20 ~~(g)~~
 - 21 (7) Section 374.3 of the Penal Code or any substantially similar
22 law or ordinance that is promulgated by a local government agency
23 as defined in Section 82041 of the Government Code.
 - 24 ~~(h)~~
 - 25 (8) Any state or local law relating to the issuance of building
26 permits.
 - 27 *(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), a licensee who engages in*
28 *the use of technologies, tools, and equipment in the course of*
29 *performing construction work pursuant to this chapter shall not*
30 *be subject to a cause for disciplinary action against themselves.*

AB 2435 (Chen-D)
Land surveyors: practice without authorization: penalties

Status/History: Introduced 2/20/26, Amended 3/16/26, 4/15/26

Passed Committee on Business and Professions and referred to Appropriations Committee

Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

Introduced: 2/20/2026

Board Position: Pending

Board Staff Analysis: 4/24/26

Bill Summary: Existing law, the Professional Land Surveyors' Act, provides for the licensure and regulation of land surveyors by the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists. The act prohibits a person from practicing land surveying unless appropriately licensed or specifically exempted from licensure. Under the Act, a person who practices, or offers to practice, land surveying without applicable legal authorization, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

This bill would specify tiered penalties, including specified fines and imprisonment, for a first, 2nd, or 3rd conviction for practicing land surveying without legal authorization.

Affected Laws: An act to amend Business and Professions Code section 8792

Staff Comment: The bill was originally introduced as a spot bill. Amendments made on March 16, 2026, proposed changes to two separate provisions within the Board's statutes. The first amendment would revise Business and Professions Code Section 8759 to require a licensee to notify a client, prior to entering into a written contract, if the licensee does not maintain professional liability insurance. Board staff contacted the bill's Author and sponsors to express concern that this amendment conflicted with similar existing provisions in Section 8729, which governs business requirements and was recently amended to require a licensee to disclose if they professional liability insurance. Board staff was advised that the amendment to Section 8759 had been included in error and would be removed. The bill, as amended on April 15, 2026, deletes all proposed modifications to Section 8759.

The second issue relates to penalties for the unlicensed practice of land surveying. This bill appears to have been introduced in response to issues raised during consideration of AB 1341 (2025), which would have made contractors subject to disciplinary action for the unlicensed practice of engineering, geology, geophysics, or land surveying. AB 1341, which was supported by the Board in 2025, was ultimately held on the Senate Appropriations suspense file and did not advance. In response, this bill was introduced as an alternative path to strengthen enforcement related specifically to unlicensed land surveying.,

As currently drafted, the bill establishes a tiered penalty structure for convictions of unlicensed land surveying: up to \$10,000 for a first conviction, \$15,000 for a second

conviction, and \$20,000 for a third or subsequent conviction. It also authorizes imprisonment of up to six months in county jail. These changes amend Section 8792 accordingly.

This approach raises several concerns. The Board does not have statutory authority to levy criminal fines or impose imprisonment as part of a conviction. Additionally, the Board's authority to impose administrative fines is currently capped at \$5,000 per violation under Business and Professions Code Sections 125.9 and 148. The Board also notes that unlicensed activity poses similar risks across all of the Board's regulated professions—professional engineering, geology, and geophysics—and any amendments should take these disciplines into account.

As of the date of this analysis, discussions regarding possible amendments are ongoing. These discussions include consideration of creating parallel statutory authority within all three of the Board's Practice Acts to allow the Board to levy higher administrative fines for unlicensed activity in engineering, land surveying, geology, and geophysics. Staff continue to collaborate with the Author and sponsors on potential draft language which mutually serve the Author's intended purpose while also ensuring that the Board's longtime concerns related to unlicensed practice affecting all of its regulated professions are appropriately addressed

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends the Board take an Opposed Unless Amended position on AB 2435 as amended on April 15, 2026.

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 15, 2026

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 16, 2026

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2025–26 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2435

Introduced by Assembly Member Chen

February 20, 2026

An act to amend Section 8792 ~~of, and to add Section 8759.1 to, of~~ the Business and Professions Code, relating to professions.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2435, as amended, Chen. ~~Land surveyors.~~ *surveyors: practice without authorization: penalties.*

Existing law, the Professional Land Surveyors' Act, provides for the licensure and regulation of land surveyors by the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists. The act prohibits a person from practicing land surveying unless appropriately licensed or specifically exempted from licensure. Under the act, a person who practices, or offers to practice, land surveying without applicable legal authorization is guilty of a misdemeanor.

This bill would specify tiered penalties, including specified fines and jail time, for a first, 2nd, or 3rd conviction for practicing land surveying without legal authorization.

~~Existing law requires a licensed land surveyor to use a written contract when contracting to provide professional services to a client pursuant to the act, except as specified.~~

~~This bill would require a licensed land surveyor who does not have professional liability insurance, before contracting to provide services, to inform the client in writing that the licensed land surveyor does not~~

~~have professional liability insurance, and if the licensed land surveyor's professional liability insurance policy lapses or they otherwise no longer have professional liability insurance after contracting, to inform the client, as specified. Because a violation of the act is a crime, the bill would expand the scope of a crime and would therefore impose a state-mandated local program.~~

~~The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.~~

~~This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason:~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.

State-mandated local program: *yes-no*.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 ~~SECTION 1. Section 8759.1 is added to the Business and~~
2 ~~Professions Code, to read:~~

3 ~~8759.1. (a) A licensed land surveyor who does not have~~
4 ~~professional liability insurance shall, before contracting to provide~~
5 ~~services pursuant to Section 8759, inform the client in writing that~~
6 ~~the licensed land surveyor does not have professional liability~~
7 ~~insurance.~~

8 ~~(b) If a licensed land surveyor's professional liability insurance~~
9 ~~policy lapses or they otherwise no longer have professional liability~~
10 ~~insurance after contracting with a client, the licensed land surveyor~~
11 ~~shall inform the client in writing within 30 days of the date the~~
12 ~~licensed land surveyor knew or should have known that they no~~
13 ~~longer have professional liability insurance.~~

14 ~~(c) This section does not apply to a land surveyor employed by~~
15 ~~a public agency who is engaged in the practice of land surveying~~
16 ~~for their public employer.~~

17 ~~SEC. 2.~~

18 ~~SECTION 1. Section 8792 of the Business and Professions~~
19 ~~Code is amended to read:~~

20 ~~8792. A person who does any of the following is guilty of a~~
21 ~~misdemeanor:~~

22 ~~(a) Unless the person is exempt from licensure under this~~
23 ~~chapter, practices, or offers to practice, land surveying in this state~~

1 without legal authorization. A violation of this subdivision is
2 subject to the following penalties:

3 (1) A first conviction is punishable by a fine not exceeding ten
4 thousand dollars (\$10,000) or by imprisonment in a county jail not
5 exceeding six months, or by both that fine and imprisonment.

6 (2) A second conviction is punishable by a fine not exceeding
7 fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) or by imprisonment in a county
8 jail not exceeding six months, or by both that fine and
9 imprisonment.

10 (3) A third or subsequent conviction is punishable by a fine not
11 less than twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) or by imprisonment
12 in a county jail not exceeding six months, or by both that fine and
13 imprisonment.

14 (b) Presents as their own the certificate of a land
15 surveyor-in-training or the license of a professional land surveyor
16 unless they are the person named on the certificate or the license.

17 (c) Attempts to file as their own any record of survey under the
18 license of a professional land surveyor.

19 (d) Gives false evidence of any kind to the board, or to any
20 board member, in obtaining a certificate or a license.

21 (e) Impersonates or uses the seal, signature, or license number
22 of a professional land surveyor or who uses a false license number.

23 (f) Impersonates or uses the certificate number of a land
24 surveyor-in-training or who uses a false certificate.

25 (g) Uses an expired, suspended, surrendered, or revoked
26 certificate or license.

27 (h) Represents themselves as, or uses the title of, professional
28 land surveyor, or any other title whereby that person could be
29 considered as practicing or offering to practice land surveying,
30 unless the person is correspondingly qualified by licensure as a
31 land surveyor under this chapter.

32 (i) Uses the title, or any combination of that title, of
33 "professional land surveyor," "licensed land surveyor," "land
34 surveyor," or the titles specified in Sections 8751 and 8775, or
35 "land surveyor-in-training," or who makes use of any abbreviation
36 of that title that might lead to the belief that the person is a licensed
37 land surveyor or holds a certificate as a land surveyor-in-training,
38 without being licensed or certified as required by this chapter.

39 (j) Unless appropriately licensed, manages, or conducts as
40 manager, proprietor, or agent, any place of business from which

1 land surveying work is solicited, performed, or practiced, except
2 as authorized pursuant to Section 6731.2.

3 (k) Violates any provision of this chapter.

4 ~~SEC. 3. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to~~
5 ~~Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because~~
6 ~~the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school~~
7 ~~district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or~~
8 ~~infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty~~
9 ~~for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of~~
10 ~~the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within~~
11 ~~the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California~~
12 ~~Constitution.~~

O

SB 1011 (McNerney-D)

Energy: Utility Infrastructure AI Safety, Oversight, and Workforce Protection Act

Status/History: Amended 4/22/26 – Referred to Senate Committee on Appropriations

Location: Senate Committee on Appropriations

Introduced: 2/10/2026

Board Position: 3/5/26 - Watch

Board Staff Analysis: 4/24/26

Bill Summary:

Existing law vests the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) with regulatory jurisdiction over public utilities, including electrical corporations and gas corporations (privately owned utilities), while local publicly owned electric utilities and local publicly owned gas utilities (publicly owned utilities) are under the direction of their governing boards. Existing law requires the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission (Energy Commission) to oversee the implementation of certain programs, including the California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program, by local publicly owned electric utilities. Under existing law, a violation of an order, decision, rule, direction, demand, or requirement of the PUC is a crime.

This bill would require the PUC, for a privately owned utility, and the Energy Commission, for a publicly owned utility, to oversee the implementation of a specified program to regulate automated decision systems in connection with certain utility functions. The bill would require privately owned utilities and publicly owned utilities (covered utilities) that employ automated decision systems in the mapping, design, configuration, operation, maintenance, or oversight of electrical or gas infrastructure to maintain a structured process by which qualified personnel are able to modify or override the output of the automated decision systems and to take other specified actions. The bill would prohibit a covered utility from deploying a high-risk automated decision system in its live operational environment unless it files with the PUC or Energy Commission, as appropriate, a safety plan containing certain information, and would require the high-risk automated decision system to operate in staging mode, as provided, before full operational deployment. The bill would require a high-risk automated decision system that creates, modifies, updates, or purports to correct system records to meet certain requirements. The bill would require a covered utility to report to the PUC or Energy Commission, as appropriate, within 24 hours of discovering any event in which a high-risk automated decision system contributed to or caused certain consequences, including a service interruption or outage affecting more than 500 customers, and would require the covered utility, within 30 days of the event, to submit a root-cause report to the PUC or Energy Commission, as appropriate, that includes certain information. The bill would require a covered utility to continuously monitor its high-risk automated decision systems and to submit an annual report to the PUC or Energy Commission, as appropriate, with certain information. The bill would require a covered utility to provide at least 180 days' advance notice, as provided, to affected labor organizations and employees in impacted employee classifications before introducing any technological change involving automated decision

systems that materially affects job duties, classifications, staffing levels, or training, and to develop retraining programs, as specified. The bill would prohibit a covered utility from implementing a high-risk automated decision system in its operations that results in the layoff of certain employees unless the covered utility has first exhausted any feasible retraining, redeployment, or reclassification options. The bill would subject a privately owned utility violating its requirements to enforcement pursuant to specified laws. Because the bill would subject a privately owned utility to those specified laws, and because a violation of a PUC action implementing the bill's requirement would be a crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The bill would require a publicly owned utility to annually certify to its governing board and the Energy Commission its compliance with the bill's requirements and regulations, guidelines, or procedures adopted to implement the bill's requirements. By imposing additional duties on local publicly owned electric utilities and local publicly owned gas utilities, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Affected Laws: An act to add Section 8510 to the Public Utilities Code.

4/22/26 – Amended:

Existing law vests the Public Utilities Commission with regulatory jurisdiction over public utilities, including electrical corporations, while local publicly owned electric utilities are under the direction of their governing boards. Existing law requires every public utility to furnish and maintain adequate, efficient, just, and reasonable service, instrumentalities, equipment, and facilities, as are necessary to promote the safety, health, comfort, and convenience of its customers, its employees, and the public.

The bill, as amended, would require the commission, on or before January 1, 2028, to adopt standards for an electrical or gas corporation's use of artificial intelligence models, as provided. The bill would require the commission to direct an electrical or gas corporation to file a plan that demonstrates the corporation's compliance with those standards. The bill would authorize the commission to prohibit an electrical or gas corporation's use of an artificial intelligence model if the commission finds that deployment of the artificial intelligence model would negatively impact the provision of safe, affordable, and reliable electrical or gas service.

The bill would require each community choice aggregator or local publicly owned electric utility to adopt a policy regarding its use of an artificial intelligence model that is consistent with the standards.

Staff Comment: Under the Utility Infrastructure AI Safety, Oversight, and Workforce Protection Act, existing law finds that "licensed engineers...possess professional judgment essential to safe utility operations," and that "automated decision systems should complement, not replace, that judgment." This bill would add the definition of an "engineering decision" as "a decision, recommendation, or configuration change affecting the design, operation, maintenance, or configuration of electrical circuits, substations, gas pipelines, compressor stations, or other utility infrastructure that is subject to review by, or is required to be performed by, a person licensed under the Professional Engineers

Act...” Staff finds this definition to generally be in line with a common understanding of what an engineering decision entails.

4/24/26 – Staff Comment Update: The amendments layer onto the earlier referenced automated decision systems-based framework, a new, separate CPUC-driven set of standards to target the utilities’ use of artificial intelligence models. The standards must address disclosure of artificial intelligence models used, identification of job classifications impacted by use of artificial intelligence, measures taken to ensure use of artificial intelligence does not negatively impact safety, affordability or reliability of public utilities and ensuring that artificial intelligence deployment does not displace essential utility workers. These amendments extend the bill beyond automated decision systems to include a broader artificial intelligence governance model.

Further, the amendments authorize CPUC to prohibit a utility from using an artificial intelligence model if the Commission finds the model would negatively impact utility safety or reliability and require Community Choice Aggregators and publicly owned utilities to adopt artificial intelligence policies consistent with CPUC standards.

Although the amendments removed references to ‘engineering decisions’ the Professional Engineers Act and ‘human review by California licensed professional engineers’, it reinforces that “licensed engineers, technical specialists, and field operations personnel possess professional judgment essential to safe utility operations. *Artificial intelligence models* should complement, not replace, that judgment.” This is consistent with the Board’s mandate.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends the Board take a Watch position on SB 1011 as amended April 22, 2026.

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 22, 2026

SENATE BILL

No. 1011

Introduced by Senator McNerney

February 10, 2026

An act to add Chapter 11 (commencing with Section 8510) to Division 4.1 of the Public Utilities Code, relating to energy.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1011, as amended, McNerney. Energy: Utility Infrastructure AI Safety, Oversight, and Workforce Protection Act.

Existing law vests the Public Utilities Commission (~~PUC~~) with regulatory jurisdiction over public utilities, including electrical corporations and gas ~~corporations~~ (~~privately owned utilities~~), *corporations*, while local publicly owned electric utilities ~~and local publicly owned gas utilities~~ (~~publicly owned utilities~~) are under the direction of their governing boards. Existing law requires ~~the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission (Energy Commission)~~ to oversee the implementation of certain programs, ~~including the California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program~~, by local publicly owned electric utilities. Under existing law, a violation of an order, decision, rule, direction, demand, or requirement of the PUC is a crime: *every public utility to furnish and maintain adequate, efficient, just, and reasonable service, instrumentalities, equipment, and facilities, as are necessary to promote the safety, health, comfort, and convenience of its customers, its employees, and the public.*

~~This bill would require the PUC, for a privately owned utility, and the Energy Commission, for a publicly owned utility, to oversee the implementation of a specified program to regulate automated decision systems in connection with certain utility functions. The bill would~~

require privately owned utilities and publicly owned utilities (covered utilities) that employ automated decision systems in the mapping, design, configuration, operation, maintenance, or oversight of electrical or gas infrastructure to maintain a structured process by which qualified personnel are able to modify or override the output of the automated decision systems and to take other specified actions. The bill would prohibit a covered utility from deploying a high-risk automated decision system in its live operational environment unless it files with the PUC or Energy Commission, as appropriate, a safety plan containing certain information, and would require the high-risk automated decision system to operate in staging mode, as provided, before full operational deployment. The bill would require a high-risk automated decision system that creates, modifies, updates, or purports to correct system records to meet certain requirements. The bill would require a covered utility to report to the PUC or Energy Commission, as appropriate, within 24 hours of discovering any event in which a high-risk automated decision system contributed to or caused certain consequences, including a service interruption or outage affecting more than 500 customers, and would require the covered utility, within 30 days of the event, to submit a root-cause report to the PUC or Energy Commission, as appropriate, that includes certain information. The bill would require a covered utility to continuously monitor its high-risk automated decision systems and to submit an annual report to the PUC or Energy Commission, as appropriate, with certain information. The bill would require a covered utility to provide at least 180 days' advance notice, as provided, to affected labor organizations and employees in impacted employee classifications before introducing any technological change involving automated decision systems that materially affects job duties, classifications, staffing levels, or training, and to develop retraining programs, as specified. The bill would prohibit a covered utility from implementing a high-risk automated decision system in its operations that results in the layoff of certain employees unless the covered utility has first exhausted any feasible retraining, redeployment, or reclassification options. The bill would subject a privately owned utility violating its requirements to enforcement pursuant to specified laws. Because the bill would subject a privately owned utility to those specified laws, and because a violation of a PUC action implementing the bill's requirement would be a crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The bill would require a publicly owned utility to annually certify to its governing board and the Energy

~~Commission its compliance with the bill's requirements and regulations, guidelines, or procedures adopted to implement the bill's requirements. By imposing additional duties on local publicly owned electric utilities and local publicly owned gas utilities, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.~~

This bill would require the commission, on or before January 1, 2028, to adopt standards for an electrical or gas corporation's use of artificial intelligence models, as provided. The bill would require the commission to direct an electrical or gas corporation to file a plan that demonstrates the corporation's compliance with those standards. The bill would authorize the commission to prohibit an electrical or gas corporation's use of an artificial intelligence model if the commission finds that deployment of the artificial intelligence model would negatively impact the provision of safe, affordable, and reliable electrical or gas service.

The bill would require each community choice aggregator or local publicly owned electric utility to adopt a policy regarding its use of an artificial intelligence model that is consistent with the standards.

Under existing law, a violation of an order, decision, rule, direction, demand, or requirement of the commission is a crime.

Because a violation of a commission action implementing those requirements would be a crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. Additionally, by imposing new duties on local publicly owned electric utilities, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for specified reasons.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. This act shall be known, and may be cited, as the
- 2 Utility Infrastructure AI Safety, Oversight, and Workforce
- 3 Protection Act.
- 4 SEC. 2. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 5 following:

1 (1) The electrical and gas infrastructure of the state is vital to
2 public safety, economic stability, and environmental sustainability.

3 (2) The increasing use of ~~automated decision systems~~ *artificial*
4 *intelligence models* within utility operations, including mapping,
5 design, configuration, control, maintenance, and oversight,
6 introduces new risks to reliability, safety, asset integrity,
7 system-of-record accuracy, and workforce continuity.

8 (3) Licensed engineers, technical specialists, and field operations
9 personnel possess professional judgment essential to safe utility
10 operations. ~~Automated decision systems~~ *Artificial intelligence*
11 *models* should complement, not replace, that judgment.

12 (4) Workers in utility operations should have appropriate notice
13 and training opportunities when technological change affects their
14 roles.

15 (b) In enacting this act, it is the intent of the Legislature to
16 establish consistent statewide standards for the safe, transparent,
17 auditable, and equitable implementation of ~~automated decision~~
18 ~~systems~~ *artificial intelligence models* in utility infrastructure
19 operations.

20 SEC. 3. Chapter 11 (commencing with Section 8510) is added
21 to Division 4.1 of the Public Utilities Code, to read:

22

23 CHAPTER 11. ~~AUTOMATED DECISION SYSTEMS~~ *ARTIFICIAL*
24 *INTELLIGENCE MODELS* IN UTILITY INFRASTRUCTURE

25

26 8510. ~~For purposes of this chapter, all of the following~~
27 ~~definitions apply:~~

28 (a) (1) ~~“Automated decision system” means a computational~~
29 ~~process, including one derived from machine learning, statistical~~
30 ~~modeling, data analytics, or artificial intelligence, that issues~~
31 ~~simplified output, including a score, classification, or~~
32 ~~recommendation, and that is used to assist or replace human~~
33 ~~discretionary decisionmaking and materially impacts natural~~
34 ~~persons.~~

35 (2) ~~“Automated decision system” does not include any of the~~
36 ~~following:~~

37 (A) ~~Spam email filters.~~

38 (B) ~~Firewalls.~~

39 (C) ~~Antivirus software.~~

40 (D) ~~Identity and access management tools.~~

- 1 ~~(E) Calculators.~~
 2 ~~(F) Databases, datasets, or other compilations of data.~~
 3 ~~(b) “Covered privately owned utility” means either of the~~
 4 ~~following:~~
 5 ~~(1) An electrical corporation, as defined in Section 218.~~
 6 ~~(2) A gas corporation, as defined in Section 222.~~
 7 ~~(c) “Covered publicly owned utility” means either of the~~
 8 ~~following:~~
 9 ~~(1) A local publicly owned electric utility, as defined in Section~~
 10 ~~224.3.~~
 11 ~~(2) A publicly owned gas utility.~~
 12 ~~(d) “Covered utility” means either of the following:~~
 13 ~~(1) A covered privately owned utility.~~
 14 ~~(2) A covered publicly owned utility.~~
 15 ~~(e) “Engineering decision” means a decision, recommendation,~~
 16 ~~or configuration change affecting the design, operation,~~
 17 ~~maintenance, or configuration of electrical circuits, substations,~~
 18 ~~gas pipelines, compressor stations, or other utility infrastructure~~
 19 ~~that is subject to review by, or is required to be performed by, a~~
 20 ~~person licensed under the Professional Engineers Act (Chapter 7~~
 21 ~~(commencing with Section 6700) of Division 3 of the Business~~
 22 ~~and Professions Code).~~
 23 ~~(f) “High-risk automated decision system” means an automated~~
 24 ~~decision system used by a utility that does any of the following:~~
 25 ~~(1) Creates or modifies system records, including geographic~~
 26 ~~information system (GIS) layers, asset registers, and configuration~~
 27 ~~logs, used in operational or engineering decisionmaking.~~
 28 ~~(2) Issues, prepopulates, or prioritizes operational actions, such~~
 29 ~~as switching, fault isolation, circuit reconfiguration, load transfers,~~
 30 ~~or gas flow adjustments.~~
 31 ~~(3) Prioritizes safety critical or wildfire risk mitigation decisions,~~
 32 ~~including, any of the following:~~
 33 ~~(A) Line deenergization or vegetation clearance.~~
 34 ~~(B) The classification or escalation of suspected gas leaks or~~
 35 ~~electrical hazards.~~
 36 ~~(C) Recommendations affecting whether or when emergency~~
 37 ~~response or field personnel dispatch is initiated.~~
 38 ~~(4) Generates, prioritizes, or recommends either of the following:~~
 39 ~~(A) Supervisory control and data acquisition.~~

~~(B) Control room or operational control actions that alter operating states, including set points, valve lineups, compressor controls, pressure or flow adjustments, alarms, interlocks, or operating limits.~~

~~(5) Creates, modifies, or recommends changes to safety critical system-of-record data that governs utility operations, including asset configuration data, isolation or valve lists, lockout or tagout points or procedures, alarm rationalization data, management of change records, or integrity-related operating parameters.~~

~~(g) “Provenance log” means a traceable record that identifies the artificial intelligence model used, its version, its training data source, the time the model output was generated, the identity of any human reviewer, and the actions taken that are approved, modified, or rejected by the human reviewer.~~

~~(h) “Staging mode” means the operating mode of a system where changes proposed by an artificial intelligence system are held in a nonoperational environment pending human review, testing, or validation before deployment into the live system.~~

~~(i) “System records” means design documents, GIS layers, configuration logs or files, change-management records, mapping files, asset registers, or other digital or analog records used by a covered utility to design, plan, configure, operate, maintain, or oversee electrical or gas systems.~~

~~(j) “Technological change” means the introduction of new or altered technology, equipment, software, automation, or robotics, or a new or altered artificial intelligence application, that alters the type, manner, or amount of work performed by employees of a covered utility.~~

~~(k) “Utility mapping system” means a GIS or other digital platform used by a covered utility to record, monitor, design, configure, or manage the layout, configuration, status, or changes of utility infrastructure circuits, pipelines, substations, valves, or other equipment or assets.~~

~~(l) “Vendor automated decision system supply chain disclosure” means the documentation provided by a vendor of an automated decision system that identifies model family, version, training data sources, update cadence, data residency, and known limitations or biases.~~

~~8511. The commission shall oversee the implementation of this chapter by a covered privately owned utility. The Energy~~

1 Commission shall oversee the implementation of this chapter by
2 a covered publicly owned utility. The commission and Energy
3 Commission shall coordinate their actions pursuant to this chapter
4 to ensure that the requirements for covered privately owned utilities
5 and covered publicly owned utilities are consistent.

6 ~~8512. (a) Every covered utility that employs an automated~~
7 ~~decision system in the mapping, design, configuration, operation,~~
8 ~~maintenance, or oversight of electrical or gas infrastructure shall~~
9 ~~maintain a structured process by which qualified personnel are~~
10 ~~able modify or override the output of the automated decision~~
11 ~~systems.~~

12 ~~(b) A covered utility shall not implement the output of a~~
13 ~~high-risk automated decision system without prior affirmative~~
14 ~~human review and approval of that output.~~

15 ~~(c) If the output of a high-risk automated decision system~~
16 ~~constitutes an engineering decision, the human review and approval~~
17 ~~required by subdivision (b) shall be performed by a~~
18 ~~California-licensed professional engineer. The high-risk automated~~
19 ~~decision system shall function as a decision-support tool and shall~~
20 ~~not independently execute operational actions or modify system~~
21 ~~records.~~

22 ~~(d) The covered utility shall maintain a provenance log for all~~
23 ~~automated decision systems outputs and human review actions,~~
24 ~~including timestamps, model version, training data source, human~~
25 ~~approver's identity, modifications and overrides, and outcome of~~
26 ~~the review.~~

27 ~~8513. (a) A covered utility shall not deploy a high-risk~~
28 ~~automated decision system in its live operational environment~~
29 ~~unless it first files with the commission or Energy Commission,~~
30 ~~as appropriate, a safety plan that includes all of the following:~~

31 ~~(1) Information about the high-risk automated decision system~~
32 ~~that includes all of the following:~~

33 ~~(A) The model version.~~

34 ~~(B) Training data description.~~

35 ~~(C) Update cadence.~~

36 ~~(D) Known limitations.~~

37 ~~(E) Bias testing.~~

38 ~~(F) Cybersecurity controls.~~

39 ~~(G) Human-override provisions.~~

40 ~~(H) Roll-back features.~~

1 ~~(1) Logging capability.~~

2 ~~(2) Scenario testing results, including, at minimum, one wildfire~~
 3 ~~or hazard scenario and one distributed energy resource congestion~~
 4 ~~or equipment failure scenario, showing system behavior, failsafe~~
 5 ~~behavior, human override, and system recovery.~~

6 ~~(3) A plan for monitoring the performance, periodic validation,~~
 7 ~~and retraining or decommissioning of high-risk automated decision~~
 8 ~~systems if performance falls below safety thresholds.~~

9 ~~(b) Before full deployment in a covered utility's operation, the~~
 10 ~~high-risk automated decision system shall operate in staging mode~~
 11 ~~for a minimum of 18 months, or a commission-determined or~~
 12 ~~Energy Commission-determined time period, as appropriate, with~~
 13 ~~all changes audited and human approved before deployment to a~~
 14 ~~live operational environment.~~

15 ~~(c) A covered utility shall provide a copy of the safety plan~~
 16 ~~required by subdivision (a) to affected labor organizations upon~~
 17 ~~filing or within 15 days upon request.~~

18 ~~8514. (a) A high-risk automated decision system that creates,~~
 19 ~~modifies, updates, or purports to correct system records, including~~
 20 ~~GIS layers, asset registers, and configuration logs, of a covered~~
 21 ~~utility shall do all of the following:~~

22 ~~(1) Operate initially in staging mode until human review is~~
 23 ~~complete.~~

24 ~~(2) Store proposed changes in a separate environment clearly~~
 25 ~~labeled "proposed by ADS—pending human review" and only be~~
 26 ~~pushed to operational use after human approval.~~

27 ~~(3) Maintain a provenance log capturing model, version, training~~
 28 ~~data source, human reviewer identity, review timestamp,~~
 29 ~~modification approval or rejection, and system version history.~~

30 ~~(4) Include a roll-back mechanism enabling restoration of prior~~
 31 ~~versions of system records in the event of a downstream adverse~~
 32 ~~effect or error detection.~~

33 ~~(b) The covered utility shall maintain audit trails of all changes~~
 34 ~~stemming from automated decision systems and human review~~
 35 ~~for a minimum of _____ years and make the audit trails available~~
 36 ~~to the commission or Energy commission, as appropriate, upon~~
 37 ~~request.~~

38 ~~8515. (a) A covered utility shall report to the commission or~~
 39 ~~Energy Commission, as appropriate, within 24 hours of discovering~~

1 any event in which a high-risk automated decision system
2 contributed to, or caused, any of the following:

3 (1) A service interruption or outage affecting more than 500
4 customers.

5 (2) Equipment damage, a failure, or a safety hazard.

6 (3) A misswitching event, incorrect mapping or asset register
7 update, erroneous configuration change, or data-integrity breach
8 with safety or reliability implications.

9 (b) Within 30 days of the occurrence of an event specified in
10 subdivision (a), a root-cause report shall be submitted to the
11 commission or Energy Commission, as appropriate, that includes
12 both of the following:

13 (1) The role of the high-risk automated decision system, vendor
14 model and version of the high-risk automated decision system
15 used, training data source, human oversight steps, and provenance
16 log.

17 (2) Corrective actions taken, scheduling of remediation,
18 human-override review of the high-risk automated decision system,
19 and actionable changes to safeguards.

20 (c) (1) A covered privately owned utility shall continuously
21 monitor its high-risk automated decision systems and submit an
22 annual report to the commission on its risk-assessment update,
23 performance versus baseline, any human-override statistics, and
24 any near-misses or incidents.

25 (2) A covered publicly owned utility shall continuously monitor
26 its high-risk automated decision systems and submit an annual
27 report to the Energy Commission and to its governing board on
28 its risk-assessment update, performance versus baseline, any
29 human-override statistics, and any near-misses or incidents.

30 8516. (a) A covered utility shall provide at least 180 days'
31 advance notice to affected labor organizations and impacted
32 employee classifications before introducing any technological
33 change involving automated decision systems that materially
34 affects job duties, classifications, staffing levels, or required
35 training.

36 (b) The notice shall include all of the following:

37 (1) A description of the proposed technology, its intended
38 function, and a timeline for deployment.

39 (2) The anticipated or actual impacts on work processes, staffing,
40 skill sets, and employee classifications.

1 ~~(3) A plan for retraining, redeployment, or reassignment of~~
2 ~~affected employees.~~

3 ~~(4) A demonstration that the proposed technology will not erode~~
4 ~~the work of licensed engineers, designers, or technical employees,~~
5 ~~unless retraining and deployment are offered.~~

6 ~~(e) Covered utilities shall develop joint retraining programs, in~~
7 ~~consultation with employee representatives, to ensure employees~~
8 ~~can transition to new work roles created by the technological~~
9 ~~change.~~

10 ~~(d) A covered utility shall not implement a high-risk automated~~
11 ~~decision system deployment in its operation that results in layoff~~
12 ~~of employees engaged in engineering decisionmaking, mapping,~~
13 ~~design, or technical operations unless the covered utility has first~~
14 ~~exhausted feasible retraining, redeployment, or reclassification~~
15 ~~options.~~

16 ~~8517. The commission and Energy Commission may adopt~~
17 ~~regulations, guidelines, or procedures, as appropriate, to implement~~
18 ~~this chapter.~~

19 ~~8518. (a) A covered privately owned utility that violates this~~
20 ~~chapter may be subject to enforcement by the commission under~~
21 ~~its authority over safe and reliable operations and is subject to~~
22 ~~penalties under Section 2108, Section 2110, or other applicable~~
23 ~~provisions of this code.~~

24 ~~(b) A covered publicly owned utility shall annually certify to~~
25 ~~its governing board and Energy Commission that it is in compliance~~
26 ~~with this chapter and any adopted regulations, guidelines, or~~
27 ~~procedures implementing this chapter.~~

28 ~~8510. (a) For purposes of this chapter,~~

29 ~~(b) “Artificial intelligence model” means an engineered or~~
30 ~~machine-based system that varies in its level of autonomy and that~~
31 ~~can, for explicit or implicit objectives, infer from the input it~~
32 ~~receives how to generate outputs that can influence physical or~~
33 ~~virtual environments.~~

34 ~~(c) “Electrical corporation” has the same meaning as defined~~
35 ~~in Section 218.~~

36 ~~(d) “Gas corporation” has the same meaning as defined in~~
37 ~~Section 222.~~

38 ~~(e) “Local publicly owned electric utility” has the same meaning~~
39 ~~as defined in Section 224.3.~~

1 8511. (a) As part of a new or existing proceeding, the
2 commission shall, on or before January 1, 2028, adopt standards
3 for an electrical corporation's or gas corporation's use of artificial
4 intelligence models. The standards adopted by the commission
5 shall do at least all of the following:

6 (1) Establish disclosure requirements for an electrical
7 corporation or gas corporation to specify the types of artificial
8 intelligence models it uses and how those models are used by the
9 electrical corporation or gas corporation.

10 (2) Require an electrical corporation or gas corporation to
11 identify the employee job classifications impacted by any planned
12 implementation of an artificial intelligence model and efforts taken
13 to ensure effective education, training, and retention for impacted
14 employees.

15 (3) Identify steps an electrical corporation or gas corporation
16 shall take to ensure that artificial intelligence models do not impact
17 utility safety, affordability, and reliability.

18 (4) Establish requirements for human review and approval for
19 the deployment and use of artificial intelligence models to ensure
20 that electrical and gas services are safe, affordable, and reliable,
21 including requirements for the placement of human review in the
22 deployment of artificial intelligence models.

23 (5) Ensure that deployment of artificial intelligence models do
24 not displace utility employees needed for the safe, affordable, and
25 reliable provision of electrical and gas services. For any job
26 classification identified as responsible for human review and
27 approval of an artificial intelligence model, the electrical
28 corporation or gas corporation shall demonstrate that its workforce
29 plan maintains sufficient personnel in that job classification to
30 ensure that human review and approval processes are not rendered
31 nominal by understaffing.

32 (6) Establish requirements for human review and approval of
33 any artificial intelligence model that does any of the following:

34 (A) Makes or directly implements operational decisions affecting
35 the mapping, design, configuration, operation, maintenance, or
36 oversight of electrical or gas infrastructure without a mandatory
37 human approval step integrated into the operational workflow
38 before implementation.

1 (B) Generates recommendations that the electrical corporation
2 or gas corporation has configured to be automatically implemented
3 without case-by-case human review.

4 (C) Performs any act that could directly and foreseeably result
5 in physical harm to a person or a service interruption or outage,
6 or impact on public safety.

7 (b) The requirements for human review and approval of artificial
8 intelligence models in subdivision (a) shall ensure staff conducting
9 the review and approval meet all of the following criteria:

10 (1) Have relevant expertise in the operational area affected by
11 the artificial intelligence model.

12 (2) Have been provided sufficient information, time, and access
13 to data to meaningfully evaluate the artificial intelligence model's
14 output or recommendations.

15 (3) Retain unimpeded authority to reject, modify, or defer
16 implementation of the artificial intelligence model without adverse
17 consequence to the reviewer.

18 (4) Have not been subject to a workflow design, performance
19 metric, or operational pressure that renders rejection of the system
20 output functionally impractical.

21 (c) The commission may prohibit an electrical corporation's
22 or gas corporation's use of an artificial intelligence model if the
23 commission finds that deployment of the artificial intelligence
24 model would negatively impact the provision of safe, affordable,
25 and reliable electrical or gas service.

26 (d) The commission shall direct an electrical corporation or
27 gas corporation to file a plan that demonstrates the corporation's
28 compliance with the standards adopted pursuant to this section.
29 The commission may request records as it deems necessary to
30 verify compliance with the standards adopted pursuant to this
31 section.

32 (e) The commission shall ensure that a plan filed by an electrical
33 corporation pursuant to subdivision (d) may be reviewed by the
34 Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety to ensure that any artificial
35 intelligence model used for wildfire mitigation is consistent with
36 the electrical corporation's wildfire mitigation plan developed
37 pursuant to Section 8386.

38 (f) The commission shall ensure that impacted bargaining units
39 are consulted in the development of plans filed pursuant to
40 subdivision (d).

1 (g) (1) Each community choice aggregator established pursuant
 2 to Section 366.2 shall adopt a policy regarding its use of an
 3 artificial intelligence model.

4 (2) A policy adopted pursuant to this subdivision shall be
 5 consistent with the standards adopted by the commission pursuant
 6 to subdivision (a).

7 (h) (1) Each local publicly owned electric utility shall adopt a
 8 policy regarding the its use of an artificial intelligence model.

9 (2) A policy adopted pursuant to this subdivision shall be
 10 consistent with the standards adopted by the commission pursuant
 11 subdivision (a).

12 ~~8519.~~

13 8515. (a) This chapter establishes minimum safety and
 14 governance standards of ~~automated decision systems~~. *artificial*
 15 *intelligence models*.

16 (b) This chapter does not limit, waive, or alter any rights,
 17 remedies, or obligations under state or federal law, including the
 18 National Labor Relations Act (29 U.S.C. Sec. 151 et seq.), the
 19 Meyers-Milias-Brown Act (Chapter 10 (commencing with Section
 20 3500) of Division 4 of Title 1 of the Government Code), the Ralph
 21 C. Dills Act (Chapter 10.3 (commencing with Section 3512) of
 22 Division 4 of Title 1 of the Government Code), or any collective
 23 bargaining agreement, with respect to technological change,
 24 staffing, workload, training, or working conditions.

25 ~~8520.~~

26 8519. The provisions of this chapter are severable. If any
 27 provision of this chapter or its application is held invalid, that
 28 invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications that can
 29 be given effect without the invalid provision or application.

30 SEC. 4. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to
 31 Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because
 32 a local agency or school district has the authority to levy service
 33 charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for the program or
 34 level of service mandated by this act or because costs that may be
 35 incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred
 36 because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a
 37 crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction,
 38 within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or

- 1 changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6
- 2 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution.

O

SB 1248 (Cabaldon-D)
State agencies: automated decision systems

Status/History: 4/21/26 – Passed Committees and referred to the Senate Committee on Appropriations

Location: 4/21/26 – Senate Committee on Appropriations

Introduced: 2/19/2026

Board Position: 3/5/26 - Watch

Board Staff Analysis: 4/24/26

Bill Summary:

Existing law establishes the Government Operations Agency (GovOps), and establishes within the agency the Department of Technology. Existing law requires the Department of Technology to conduct, in coordination with other interagency bodies as it deems appropriate, a comprehensive inventory of all high-risk automated decision systems that have been proposed for use, development, or procurement by, or are being used, developed, or procured by, any state agency. Existing law defines, for these purposes, an “automated decision system” as, among other things, a computational process that is used to assist or replace human discretionary decision making and materially impacts natural persons.

Existing law establishes various public assistance and social programs administered by state agencies, including the Department of Social Services and the Employment Development Department. Existing law provides for the licensure and regulation of specified professions and vocations by boards and bureaus within the Department of Consumer Affairs.

This bill would impose certain restrictions on the use of an automated decision system by a state agency to confer services, defined as, among other things, the issuance of professional licenses and provision of public benefits. Among the restrictions, the bill would include a prohibition on using an output from the system as the sole basis for an adverse service determination affecting a natural person, except as specified. The bill would require the state agency to verify the accuracy of the system’s outputs and to promote nondiscrimination in its use, as specified. The bill would require the director or designee of a state agency to provide for quality control review of the outputs, as specified, to assure acceptable accuracy.

This bill would authorize GovOps to develop, adopt, and make publicly available guidance for a state agency’s use of automated decision systems. The bill would require GovOps to notify the Joint Legislative Budget Committee before issuing the guidance. The bill would require GovOps to provide technical assistance to state agencies upon request. The bill would define terms for purposes of its provisions and would make related findings and declarations.

Affected Laws: An act to add Sections 12898-12898.3 to the Government Code

Staff Comment: This bill recognizes the need for safeguards to be put in place to support the growing use of automated decision systems while maintaining human interaction and judgment to ensure integrity in the licensure process.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends the Board continue to take a Watch position on SB 1278 as introduced on February 19, 2026.

Introduced by Senator CabaldonFebruary 19, 2026

An act to add Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 12898) to Part 2.5 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, relating to automated decision systems.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1248, as introduced, Cabaldon. State agencies: automated decision systems.

Existing law establishes the Government Operations Agency (GovOps), and establishes within the agency the Department of Technology. Existing law requires the Department of Technology to conduct, in coordination with other interagency bodies as it deems appropriate, a comprehensive inventory of all high-risk automated decision systems that have been proposed for use, development, or procurement by, or are being used, developed, or procured by, any state agency. Existing law defines, for these purposes, an "automated decision system" as, among other things, a computational process that is used to assist or replace human discretionary decisionmaking and materially impacts natural persons.

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This bill would authorize GovOps to develop, adopt, and make publicly available guidance for a state agency's use of automated decision systems. The bill would require GovOps to notify the Joint Legislative Budget Committee before issuing the guidance. The bill would require GovOps to provide technical assistance to state agencies upon request. The bill would define terms for purposes of its provisions and would make related findings and declarations.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (a) California's residents and businesses increasingly conduct
- 4 transactions at unprecedented speeds, with private sector services
- 5 such as loan approvals, insurance applications, and consumer
- 6 purchases now processed in minutes or seconds through automated
- 7 systems. Government services have not kept pace with these
- 8 technological advances, creating a disconnect between public
- 9 expectations and the reality of government service delivery.
- 10 (b) Delays in processing professional license applications,
- 11 credential verifications, and occupational certifications impose
- 12 significant hardships on California residents. Nurses, teachers,
- 13 contractors, cosmetologists, and other professionals face prolonged
- 14 delays in receiving licenses necessary to begin or continue working,
- 15 which creates economic hardship and workforce shortages.
- 16 Businesses cannot operate while waiting for required professional
- 17 credentials, and California's economy suffers when qualified
- 18 individuals are prevented from contributing their skills due to
- 19 administrative backlogs.

1 (c) Automatic decisionmaking systems, when properly designed
2 with appropriate safeguards, transparency measures, and human
3 oversight mechanisms, have the potential to dramatically reduce
4 processing times for routine governmental decisions while
5 maintaining accuracy and fairness. These systems can enable state
6 agencies to redirect limited staff resources from repetitive
7 administrative tasks to complex cases requiring human judgment
8 and to providing enhanced customer service.

9 (d) The deployment of automated decisionmaking technology
10 in government services must be accompanied by robust protections
11 to ensure equity, prevent algorithmic bias, protect individual
12 privacy, and preserve meaningful human review and appeal rights.
13 The benefits of speed and efficiency must not come at the expense
14 of due process, equal protection, or the fundamental principle that
15 government remains accountable to the people it serves.

16 (e) Authorizing state agencies to utilize automatic
17 decisionmaking systems for professional licensing, occupational
18 credentialing, and benefits determination in state-administered
19 programs, subject to appropriate standards and oversight, will
20 modernize California's public service infrastructure, reduce
21 administrative burdens on both government and residents, and
22 ensure that government responsiveness reflects the technological
23 capabilities and expectations of the twenty-first century.

24 (f) California operates over 40 professional licensing boards,
25 bureaus, and programs under the Department of Consumer Affairs,
26 regulating more than 200 occupations and professions. These
27 entities process hundreds of thousands of license applications,
28 renewals, and verifications annually. Automatic decisionmaking
29 systems provide state agencies the technological means to meet
30 statutory processing timelines while ensuring consistent and fair
31 application of licensing criteria and professional standards.

32 SEC. 2. Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 12898) is added
33 to Part 2.5 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, to
34 read:

35

36 CHAPTER 6. AUTOMATED DECISION SYSTEMS

37

38 12898. For purposes of this chapter, the following definitions
39 apply:

1 (a) “Artificial intelligence” means an engineered or
2 machine-based system that varies in its level of autonomy and that
3 can, for explicit or implicit objectives, infer from the input it
4 receives how to generate outputs that can influence physical or
5 virtual environments.

6 (b) “Automated decision system” means a computational process
7 derived from machine learning, statistical modeling, data analytics,
8 or artificial intelligence that issues simplified output, including a
9 score, classification, or recommendation, that is used to assist or
10 replace human discretionary decisionmaking and materially impacts
11 natural persons. “Automated decision system” does not include a
12 spam email filter, firewall, antivirus software, identity and access
13 management tools, calculator, database, dataset, or other
14 compilation of data.

15 (c) “Legally protected information” means information that a
16 person is prohibited from disclosing under federal or state law,
17 including provisions of the Evidence Code relating to privilege,
18 or that would result in a violation of a legal duty of confidentiality.

19 (d) “State agency” has the same meaning as in Section 11000.

20 (e) “Personally identifiable information” means an individual’s
21 residential address, telephone number, social security number,
22 driver’s license number, state identification card number, passport
23 number, license plate number, vehicle registration information for
24 a motor vehicle owned or leased by the individual, and information
25 regarding an individual’s precise geolocation, as defined in Section
26 1798.140 of the Civil Code.

27 (f) “Protected health information” has the same meaning as
28 defined in Section 160.103 of Title 45 of the Code of Federal
29 Regulations.

30 (g) “Services” means both of the following:

31 (1) Services, benefits, or assistance, whether provided in cash
32 or in kind, that a state agency provides or administers, including,
33 but not limited to, social services, linkages to programs
34 administered by the federal Social Security Administration,
35 vocational and education-related services, and employment
36 assistance.

37 (2) Issuance, renewal, denial, or suspension of a professional
38 license or occupational credential.

1 12898.1. If a state agency uses an automated decision system
2 for services, not including competitive determinations, the state
3 agency shall comply with all of the following:

4 (a) The state agency may use an automated decision system to
5 inform its decisionmaking process. The state agency shall not
6 substitute the outputs of an automated decision system for human
7 judgment.

8 (b) When an automated decision system is used to assist in a
9 decisionmaking process, the system shall be only one of the factors
10 a user considers in reaching a decision. The state agency may use
11 an automated decision system to ascertain whether a services
12 application or submission meets minimum eligibility thresholds
13 as predetermined by the state agency.

14 (c) The state agency shall not use an output from an automated
15 decision system as the sole basis for an adverse service
16 determination affecting a natural person, such as denial of a benefit
17 or license, except as expressly authorized by federal or state law.

18 (d) The state agency shall require that any output of an
19 automated decision system that suggests noneligibility or other
20 adverse action be reviewed by a human before any adverse action
21 is taken.

22 (e) A state agency's user shall not represent work generated
23 solely by an automated decision system as the user's own original
24 work.

25 (f) When the use of an automated decision system is material
26 to a decision, the state agency shall provide a means, consistent
27 with applicable law, to document or disclose that the system was
28 used in the decisionmaking process.

29 (g) The state agency shall verify the accuracy of an automated
30 decision system's outputs, and shall promote nondiscrimination
31 in its use of an automated decision system, by doing all of the
32 following:

33 (1) Ensure content, recommendations, or other outputs generated
34 by an automated decision system that may materially affect service
35 levels are reviewed and verified by an employee of the state
36 agency, or by another authorized person, for accuracy before being
37 relied upon.

38 (2) Monitor and periodically evaluate the use of automated
39 decision systems to reduce the risk that outputs contain or
40 perpetuate bias, including bias based on race, color, religion, sex,

1 gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation,
2 marital status, national origin, ancestry, age, disability, medical
3 condition, genetic information, immigration or citizenship status,
4 or any other characteristic protected by federal or state law.

5 (3) Require that an application or submission contain all required
6 fields, attachments, or information in the required format.

7 (h) The state agency shall safeguard personally identifiable
8 information, protected health information, or other legally protected
9 information by prohibiting a user of the automated decisions system
10 from inputting, uploading, or otherwise disclosing the information
11 to an automated decision system, except where necessary for
12 services administration or delivery, as authorized by law and
13 subject to appropriate safeguards. For third-party systems, a state
14 agency shall employ safeguards that may include access controls
15 and appropriate security standards.

16 (i) The state agency’s director or designee shall provide for an
17 initial and subsequent periodic quality control review of the outputs
18 of the automated decision system, or a statistically valid represented
19 sample thereof to assure acceptable accuracy.

20 12898.2 The Government Operations Agency, in collaboration
21 with any other state entity the agency deems appropriate, may
22 develop, adopt, and make publicly available guidance for a state
23 agency’s use of automated decision systems consistent with this
24 chapter. Before issuing the guidance, the agency shall notify the
25 Joint Legislative Budget Committee of its decision to issue
26 guidance.

27 12898.3 The Government Operations Agency may provide
28 technical assistance to state agencies to comply with this chapter.

X. Rulemaking Status Report

A. Pending Rulemaking Efforts – Status Report

Rulemaking Status Report

1. Fees (16 CCR sections 407 and 3005)

- Office of Administrative Law (OAL) approved the Board's Fees regulation and filed the action with the Secretary of State on March 26, 2026. This regulatory action will become effective on July 1, 2026.
 - Rulemaking file was submitted to Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for final review and approval on February 17, 2026.
 - Board approved adoption of the final rulemaking proposal on January 15, 2026.
 - Noticed for 45-day Public Comment period on October 3, 2025.
 - Approved by Agency on September 22, 2025.
 - Director approved the Board's Fee regulatory package on September 2, 2025.
 - Budget office approved the Board's Fee regulatory package on July 14, 2025.
 - Staff working with DCA Legal and Budgets to finalize proposal for Notice in July 2025.
 - Board directed staff to pursue rulemaking proposal on August 22, 2024.

2. Gender Neutral Terms and Technical Clean-up (Renumbering Paragraphs - Section 100) (16 CCR sections 425)

- Office of Administrative Law (OAL) approved the Board's regulation and filed the action with the Secretary of State on April 21, 2026.
 - Rulemaking file was submitted to Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for final review and approval on March 10, 2026.
 - Submitted for initial review by DCA Legal on December 17, 2025.
 - Board directed staff to pursue rulemaking proposal on December 19, 2024.

3. Disciplinary Orders – Section 100 (16 CCR section 419)

- Board staff working with DCA Legal to prepare documents for submission to Office of Administrative Law (OAL).
 - Submitted for initial review by DCA Legal on March 10, 2026.
 - Board to pursue rulemaking proposal on April 18, 2025.

4. Use Gender-Neutral Language – Section 100 (16 CCR 400-476 and 3000-3067)

- Board staff to prepare documents for initial review by DCA Legal.
 - Board directed staff to pursue rulemaking proposal on March 5, 2026.

5. Definitions of Negligence and Incompetence and Responsible Charge Criteria for Professional Geologists and Professional Geophysicists (16 CCR sections 3003 and 3003.1)

- Board staff will work on the pre-notice documents.
 - Board directed staff to pursue rulemaking proposal on September 6, 2018.

6. Applications, References, Computation of Qualifying Experience, and Schedule of Examinations (16 CCR sections 420, 427.10, 427.30, 3021, 3022.2, 3023, and 3032)

- Staff working with Legal to prepare language for Board review.
 - Staff working on final text for submittal to DCA Legal in September 2022.
 - Staff working with DCA Legal to finalize proposal for notice (April 2022).
 - Submitted for initial (pre-notice) review by DCA Legal on December 6, 2021.
 - Board directed staff to pursue rulemaking proposal on November 8, 2021.

7. Waiver of First Division and a Portion of Second Division Engineering Examinations (16 CCR sections 438 and 438.5)

- Board directed staff to pursue rulemaking proposal on May 29, 2025

Note: Documents related to any rulemaking file listed as noticed for public comment can be obtained from the Board's website at: http://www.bpelsg.ca.gov/about_us/rulemaking.shtml.

XI. Executive Officer's Report

- A. Personnel
- B. Discussion on Upcoming License Renewal Assessment
- C. Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG)
 - 1. Report from April 9–11, 2026, Council of Examiners Workshop, Branson, MO
- D. National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES)
 - 1. Report from April 30-May 2, 2026, Western Zone Interim Meeting, Bend, OR
 - 2. Annual Meeting August 17-21, 2026, Henderson, NV – Determine Funded Delegates (Possible Action)
- E. Update on Outreach Efforts

Renewal Assessment

On July 1, 2026, the Board will implement the Renewal Assessment for all licenses that expire and renew after June 30, 2026. Licensees will be required to complete a Renewal Assessment at the time of the license renewal. This requirement is being implemented in accordance with provisions in the Business and Professions Code (BPC) §6795.2, §8801.1 and §7881.5 which establish statutory obligations to reinforce licensee’s knowledge of state laws and the board’s rules and regulations.

Licensees may renew their licenses without completing the Renewal Assessment, but they are required to successfully complete the assessment within 60 days of their license expiration date.

Failure to complete the Renewal Assessment within the required timeframe may result in disciplinary action, including potential enforcement measures. Licensees are strongly encouraged to complete the assessment promptly to avoid any compliance issues.

Licensees will complete the Renewal Assessment through the **BPELSG Connect** platform. Sixty days before license expiration, licensees may pay renewal fees and take renewal assessments.

The BPELSG Connect User Dashboard will display a Renewal Assessment button under Action column for each license. If the licensee has paid renewal fees, but has not completed the Renewal Assessment, the Renewal Assessment button will remain active.



Licenses				
License Type	License#	Issuance Date	Expiration Date	Action
CIVIL ENGINEER	C	12/18/20	03/31/2026	Renewal Assessment



Licenses				
License Type	License#	Issuance Date	Expiration Date	Action
LAND SURVEYOR	L	05/29/2013	09/30/2025	Renewal Assessment

Clicking the Renewal Assessment button will launch the Renewal Assessment. There are three License Renewal Assessments (Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors and Geologists). The renewal assessment corresponding to each specific license discipline will launch in a web browser window and begin auto playing. The program is interactive and plays audio. Licensees will listen to the material and be expected to interact with each module. There are also closed captioning and ADA settings.

Each program includes:

- Module 1 Course Overview
- Module 2 Changes to the Professional Engineers Act (Business and Professions Code sections 6700-6799) and Board Rules (Title 16, California Code of Regulations sections 400-476), Professional Land Surveyors' Act (Business and Professions Code sections 8700-8805) and Board Rules (Title 16, California Code of Regulations sections 400-476) or Geologist and Geophysicist Act (Business and Professions Code sections 7800-7887) and Regulations Relating to the Practices of Geology and Geophysics (Title 16, California Code of Regulations sections 3000-3067)
- Module 3 Top Violations
- Module 4 Knowledge Check
- Module 5 Conclusion

Once Module 5 is completed, the licensee will close the browser window and completion of the renewal assessment will be reported to the Board. When the renewal assessment is completed the Renewal Assessment button will no longer be displayed in the User Dashboard. The Board will send email correspondence to licensees upon successful completion of the Renewal Assessment.

There are no additional fees associated with the Renewal Assessment.

Board staff have prepared the following topics related to the Renewal Assessment to address questions and concerns related to the assessment. This information is posted to the Board's website on the License Renewals page.

What is the Renewal Assessment?

The Renewal Assessment is an online program that includes educational reading materials and related questions. The content is based on state law and the Board's rules and regulations governing the practice of professional engineering, land surveying, and geology. The assessment was designed to reinforce licensees' knowledge of and increase in compliance with state laws and Board rules and regulations.

The assessment focuses on:

- The Board's top five types of violations related to administrative and procedural aspects of practice.
- Updates or changes to existing laws concerning these administrative and procedural requirements.

When does the requirement take effect?

The Renewal Assessment requirement applies to all licenses that expire and renew after June 30, 2026.

How do I access the Renewal Assessment?

Licensees will access the assessment through the BPELSG Connect platform. When you are required to complete the assessment, a Renewal Assessment button will appear in your user dashboard. Clicking this button will take you directly to the assessment required for your license discipline.

Do I need to complete the assessment before renewing my license?

No. You may renew your license without completing the assessment. However, you are required to successfully complete the Renewal Assessment within 60 days of your license expiration date.

What happens if I don't complete the assessment on time?

Failure to complete the Renewal Assessment within the required 60-day period may result in disciplinary action, including potential enforcement measures. Timely completion is essential to remain in compliance.

How long will the assessment take?

The assessment is designed to be completed within a reasonable timeframe (under an hour).

Will I receive reminders to take the Renewal Assessment?

Yes. Licensees will receive notifications via email and through their BPELSG Connect dashboard. Make sure your contact information is current to ensure you receive all updates. BPELSG Connect sends email reminders for license renewals, delinquent license notices and will start sending Renewal Assessment reminders in July 2026.

Is there a fee to take the assessment?

There is no additional fee for the Renewal Assessment. Licensees are still subject to the standard license renewal fee.

How often do I need to complete the Renewal Assessment?

The renewal assessment must be completed once every two years, per license discipline. If you have multiple licenses you will need to complete the appropriate module for your licenses only once in a two-year period.

What if I hold more than one license of different license types (e.g., a Professional Engineer license and a Professional Land Surveyor license. Will I have to take more than one renewal assessment?

Individuals holding multiple licenses which are applicable to more than one Act (Professional Engineers Act, Professional Land Surveyors' Act, Professional Geologist and Geophysicist Act) will have to take multiple renewal assessments due to the separate statutes and board rules.

What if I close the Renewal Assessment browser window?

If the Renewal Assessment browser window closes before the assessment is finished, the licensee will receive credit for the completed modules. When they return and click the Renewal Assessment button, the assessment will reopen at the point where they left off so they can continue.

MENU TRANSCRIPT

License Renewal Assessment - Professional Engineers

RESOURCES

- Professional Engineers
- Module 1 - Course Overview
- Module 2 - Changes to the PE Act
- Module 3 - Top Violations
- Module 4 - Knowledge Check
- Module 5 - Conclusion

Department of Consumer Affairs
Board for Professional Engineers,
Land Surveyors, and Geologists

License Renewal
Assessment

**Professional
Engineers**

Play button and progress bar are visible at the bottom of the video player.

MENU TRANSCRIPT

License Renewal Assessment - Professional Engineers

RESOURCES

Welcome to this California Department of Consumer Affairs, Board for Professional Engineers, Professional Engineers', and Geologists series of eLearning courses on License Renewal Assessment.

Our goal is to provide licensees with a clear and comprehensive understanding of the knowledge required for license renewal.

This series of courses has been written and designed for Engineers, Professional Engineers', and Geologists. **This** is the course for Professional Engineers. You must complete this training each time you renew your license.

Department of Consumer Affairs
Board for Professional Engineers,
Land Surveyors, and Geologists

License Renewal
Assessment

**Professional
Engineers**

Play (Ctrl+R+P) button and progress bar are visible at the bottom of the video player.

MENU TRANSCRIPT

To navigate throughout this course, use the Next and Previous buttons found at the bottom of the page. These buttons will appear when the narration is completed.

The bottom of the page also contains the seek bar. This displays the progress of the page. Once the page is complete you may adjust the slider to replay from any point.

The bottom right of the page is where you can turn closed captioning on and off, adjust volume, and adjust ADA settings.

In the top right corner will be a list of resources available to you throughout the module. The left side menu contains the table of contents. The menu icon allows you to toggle the menu on and off.

The table of contents will track your progress through the course.

You may click on pages you have previously completed to revisit them.

Pages you have yet to complete will be locked until you progress through the module.

Press "next" to continue.

License Renewal Assessment - Professional Engineers

How to Navigate this Course

Department of Consumer Affairs
Board for Professional Engineers,
Land Surveyors, and Geologists

License Renewal Assessment

Professional Engineers

Enter

Next

MENU TRANSCRIPT

This online course assesses a licensee's knowledge and understanding of the content required for license renewal and will consist of educational reading materials and questions.

The material will be based on Business and Professions Code sections 6700 - 6799; Professional Engineers' Act) and California Code of Regulations Title 16, Division 5 sections 400 to 476 (Board Rules and Regulations).

Click next to continue.

License Renewal Assessment - Professional Engineers


License Renewal Assessment
Professional Engineers

Module 1: Course Overview

Purpose

This online course assesses a licensee's knowledge and understanding of the content required for license renewal.

The assessment will consist of educational reading materials and questions.



After completing this course, you will be able to identify the key elements of the legislative acts for engineers where the Board sees violations by licensees.

Gain a better understanding of the importance in maintaining professional standards and public trust.

Reflect on the importance of regulatory bodies and the potential consequences of failing to adhere to regulatory requirements.

Click next to continue.

Objectives

- Identify the key elements of the legislative acts for engineers where the Board sees violations by licensees.
- Gain a better understanding of the importance in maintaining professional standards and public trust.
- Reflect on the importance of regulatory bodies and the potential consequences of failing to adhere to regulatory requirements.



← Prev

Next →

Why do we assess your knowledge for license renewal?

1. Protection of the public.

2. Maintain and Increase Compliance, and

3. Reinforce your knowledge of state laws and the Board's rules and regulations.

Click next to continue.

Why do we assess your knowledge for license renewal?

1. Protection of the Public
2. Maintain and Increase Compliance
3. Reinforce your knowledge of state laws and the Board's rules and regulations

MENU TRANSCRIPT License Renewal Assessment - Professional Engineers RESOURCES

Professional Engineers

- Module 1 - Course Overview
 - Navigation ✓
 - Purpose ✓
 - Objectives ✓
 - Why assess? ✓
 - Course Content and Learning Modules ✓
 - Learning Modules ✓
 - End of Module 1 ✓
- Module 2 - Changes to the PE Act ✓
- Module 3 - Top Violations ✓
- Module 4 - Knowledge Check ✓
- Module 5 - Conclusion ✓

License Renewal Assessment
Professional Engineers

Module 1: Course Overview

Course Content

- Key parts of the Professional Engineers Act (PE Act).
- You will be presented with changes or additions to existing law related to administrative and procedural aspects of the PE Act.
- You will engage in scenarios that illustrate the top violations that occur.
- You will have a chance to test your knowledge at the end of each module.

||

MENU TRANSCRIPT License Renewal Assessment - Professional Engineers RESOURCES

Professional Engineers

- Module 1 - Course Overview
 - Navigation ✓
 - Purpose ✓
 - Objectives ✓
 - Why assess? ✓
 - Course Content and Learning Modules ✓
 - Learning Modules ✓
 - End of Module 1 ✓
- Module 2 - Changes to the PE Act ✓
- Module 3 - Top Violations ✓
- Module 4 - Knowledge Check ✓
- Module 5 - Conclusion ✓

License Renewal Assessment
Professional Engineers

Module 1: Course Overview

Learning Modules

- Module 1:** Course Overview
- Module 2:** Changes to the PE Act
- Module 3:** Top Violations
- Module 4:** Knowledge Check
- Module 5:** Conclusion

◀ Prev Next ▶

MENU TRANSCRIPT

License Renewal Assessment - Professional Engineers

RESOURCES

Professional Engineers

- Module 1 - Course Overview
 - Navigation ✓
 - Purpose ✓
 - Objectives ✓
 - Why assess? ✓
 - Course Content and Learning Modules ✓
 - Learning Modules ✓
 - End of Module 1 ✓
- Module 2 - Changes to the PE Act
- Module 3 - Top Violations
- Module 4 - Knowledge Check
- Module 5 - Conclusion


License Renewal Assessment
Professional Engineers

Module 1: Course Overview

End of Module 1

Replay Module 1


Continue to Module 2





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QUARTERLY OUTREACH REPORT (Q2)

SOCIAL MEDIA: January – March 2026

 TOP FACEBOOK POSTS	DATE	IEWS
NCEES Invite to PE Structural Webinar	Oct 15	224
Meeting Materials for Nov 13/14 Board Meeting Posted	Nov 7	178
Notice and Agenda for Nov 13/14 Board Meeting Posted	Oct 31	133
NCEES announces FS Interactive Exam	Oct 15	117
Winter <i>Bulletin</i> Published	Dec 22	84

 TOP TWEETS	DATE	IEWS
NCEES announces FS Interactive Exam	Oct 15	70
Notice and Agenda for Nov 13/14 Board Meeting Posted	Oct 31	53
Meeting Materials for Nov 13/14 Board Meeting Posted	Nov 7	46
Winter <i>Bulletin</i> Published	Dec 22	28
Notice and Agenda for Jan 15/16 Board Meeting Posted	Dec 31	18

 WEB PAGE VIEWS	IEWS
License Lookup	88,132
Board Home Page	48,244
Applicants Information	31,828
PE License Renewal	24,519
PE Licensee Information	20,326

OUTREACH EVENTS: January – March 2026

All Events “In-Person” Unless Noted “Virtual”

KEY:

All In- Person unless noted “Virtual”

ACEC - American Council of Engineering

APWA - American Public Works Association

ASCE – American Society of Civil Engineers

CLSA – California Land Surveyors Association

NSBE – National Society of Black Engineers

WES FED – Western Regional Survey Conference of Land Surveyors in the eight western states

JANUARY

Jan 14 CLSA-Bay Area joint meeting (virtual) D. Sweeney, PLS

Jan 21 ACEC Fresno, BPELSG update D. Sweeney, PLS

Jan 22 CSU Fresno Geomatics Conference, “Path to licensure” D. Sweeney, PLS

Jan 28 ASCE YMF San Francisco chapter: “Pathway to Professional Licensure” (in-person) N. King, PE

Jan 31 NSBE LA: “Breaking Barriers to Licensure” Workshop (virtual) N. King, PE

FEBRUARY

Feb 3 UC Irvine Senior Capstone Design (Civil): “Pathway to Professional Licensure” (virtual) N. King, PE

Feb 5 Sacramento City College (virtual): Path to Licensure D. Sweeney, PLS

Feb 9 Cal State LA EIT Exam Preparation Course (Mechanical): “Pathway to Professional Licensure” N. King, PE

Feb 25 Cal Poly SLO Structural Engineering students: “Pathway to Professional Licensure” (virtual) N. King, PE

Feb 26 Cal Poly SLO Senior Design (Mechanical): “Pathway to Professional Licensure” (virtual – 3 labs) N. King, PE

Feb 27 Cal Poly SLO Electrical Engineering Seminar: “Pathway to Professional Licensure” (virtual) N. King, PE

MARCH

Mar 2 APWA Palm Desert: Monument Preservation D. Sweeney, PLS

Mar 6 CLSA Sacramento, BPELSG update D. Sweeney, PLS

Mar 10 SJSU ASCE Student Chapter: “Professional Licensure in California” (virtual) N. King, PE

Mar 12 CLSA & ACEC Monterey Bay chapters: “Calif. Licensing for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors” N. King, PS, & D. Sweeney, PLS

Mar 16 City of South Lake Tahoe: Monument Preservation R. Moore, PLS & D. Sweeney, PLS

Mar 18 WES FED survey conference Board of Registration update D. Sweeney, PLS

Mar 18 San Diego State Univ., Pathway to PG and GIT J. Goodwin, PG, CEG

Mar 18 San Diego Association of Geologists (SDAG), Geology and Geophysics Licensure in California J. Goodwin, PG, CEG

Mar 19 CSU, San Bernardino, Pathway to PG and GIT J. Goodwin, PG, CEG

Mar 19 Cal Poly Pomona, Pathway to PG and GIT J. Goodwin, PG, CEG

Mar 19 CSU, Long Beach, Pathway to PG and GIT J. Goodwin, PG, CEG

XII. President's Report/Board Member Activities

XIII. Election of 2026-27 President and Vice President (Possible Action)

XIV. Approval of Meeting Minutes (Possible Action)

A. Approval of March 5, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes

DRAFT

MINUTES OF THE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, LAND SURVEYORS, AND GEOLOGISTS

Department of Consumer Affairs
1747 North Market Blvd., Hearing Room #186
Sacramento, CA 95834

Thursday, March 5, 2026

Board Members Present:	President Guillermo Martinez; Vice-President Frank Ruffino; Fel Amistad; Alireza Asgari; Rossana D’Antonio; Desirea Haggard; Michael Hartley; Betsy Mathieson; Wilfredo Sanchez; Fermin Villegas; Cliff Waldeck; and Christina Wong
Board Members Absent:	
Board Staff Present:	Ric Moore (Executive Officer); Tiffany Criswell (Assistant Executive Officer); Dawn Hall (Administrative Manager); Larry Kereszt (Examination Manager) (via Webex); Brook Grabowski (Enforcement Manager); Celina Calderone (Board Liaison); Natalie King (Senior Registrar Civil Engineer); Dallas Sweeney (Senior Registrar Land Surveyor); Bruce Locken (Senior Registrar Mechanical Engineer); Leijaira Swiggum (Board Staff); and Christopher Pirrone (Legal Counsel)

I. Roll Call to Establish a Quorum

President Martinez called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. and a quorum was established.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Vice-President Ruffino led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

During Public Comment, an individual by the name of Scott Jercich, retired licensed professional engineer, presented information regarding Operation Math Lift, a volunteer initiative that places retired and practicing engineers in elementary and middle school classrooms to provide one-on-one foundational math support. He expressed appreciation for Executive Officer Moore’s commitment to featuring Operation Math Lift in the Board’s newsletter. He explained that the program which pairs engineers with students for foundational math tutoring addresses a critical proficiency gap in California schools. He requested the Board determine if this outreach constitutes official board business and encouraged the Board to support initiatives that leverage engineering expertise to solve statewide educational challenges.

Former Board Members Jim Foley and Patrick Tami commended Board Liaison Celina Calderone for her service, noting this as the final meeting she will facilitate prior to her retirement.

Steve Brown, licensed traffic engineer, noted that the term Traffic Engineer is outdated and suggests a narrow focus on automobiles. Mr. Brown proposed updating the license title to “Transportation Engineer,” asserting that this change more accurately reflects the scope of what engineers practice in California.

IV. Administration

A. Fiscal Year 2025/26 Budget Report

Ms. Dawn Hall, Administrative Manager, reported that projected revenues remain unchanged since the previous Board meeting. Expense projections saw a slight increase driven by a new print contract and higher DCA Pro Rata for Department of Investigation expenses; the overall fund condition remains stable. This did not have an impact on the overall fund condition as the Statewide Pro Rata was adjusted down, and the projected months in reserve have gone up slightly since the January Board Meeting.

Ms. Mathieson requested clarification regarding the increase in printing expenses. Ms. Hall attributed the rise to a transition in vendors after the previous contractor declined to renew. To mitigate these costs, Ms. Hall noted that the Board is moving toward digital notifications for certain renewal notices. She further clarified that the projected expenses reflect the full encumbrance of both current and overlapping contracts, and actual expenditures are expected to be significantly lower.

V. Enforcement

A. Enforcement Statistical Reports

1. Fiscal Year 2025/26 Update

Brook Grabowski, Enforcement Manager, presented the current Enforcement statistics, noting an upward trend in cases within the 1-3 year investigation phase. She emphasized that staff has prioritized these specific cases to streamline the process and reduce overall resolution timelines.

Mr. Moore added that a couple of years ago, a vacant position was lost in the Enforcement unit which resulted in the redistribution of the workload. Ms. Grabowski is working with her staff to optimize workflow and effectively manage the increased caseload.

VI. Exams/Licensing

A. Examination/Licensing Updates

No report given.

B. 2025 Examination Results

Larry Kereszt, Exam Development Manager, presented the examination results for 2025 and a historical view of each of the state exams as well as the national geology exams going back as far as 2018. He presented a comparative analysis of candidate statistics dating back to 2018 to evaluate the pandemic's impact on examinations. He noted that while the data reflects significant shifts over the last several years, 2025 emerged as a particularly strong year for the size of the candidate population, suggesting a good recovery in the applicant population. Of the 9 state specific exams, 6 of them had the highest total number of candidates since 2018, which is very encouraging.

During Public Comment, Carl Josephson representing the Structural Engineer Association of California (SEAOC) suggested including test results for all four of the engineering exam components, breadth and depth, vertical and lateral. There is a lot of discussion at the national level about how the depth exam is doing as the pass rates have been low and (who?) suspects that they are low for California as well. Reporting on the components individually would offer a more accurate reflection of candidate performance. He also noted that candidates will be granted an additional hour for the depth portion of the upcoming structural exam, while maintaining its current 60 questions. Beginning next year, the depth portion will retain the extended time but will reduce the total question count to 48. He advised that these changes may cause pass rates to fluctuate as the new format is implemented.

VII. Legislation

A. 2026 Legislative Calendar

Mr. Moore reviewed the legislative calendar. February 20th was the last day for bills to be introduced. Staff continues to monitor spot bills that did not make the agenda as there is nothing to consider at this time. As bills are being introduced, they are getting scheduled and assigned to committees, but the hearings are just beginning to be scheduled. Spring recess begins March 26th resulting in the first hearings in the initial committees which may take place over the next couple of weeks.

B. Discussion of Legislation for 2026 (Possible Action)

1. Assembly Bill (AB) 1693 – Accelerated retailer building plan approval

MOTION:	Mr. Hartley and Ms. Mathieson moved to take a watch position on AB 1693 as introduced on February 3, 2026.
VOTE:	12-0, Motion Carried

Member Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Recusal
President Martinez	X				
Vice-President Ruffino	X				
Fel Amistad	X				
Alireza Asgari	X				
Rossana D'Antonio	X				

Desirea Haggard	X				
Michael Hartley	X				
Betsy Mathieson	X				
Wilfredo Sanchez	X				
Fermin Villegas	X				
Cliff Waldeck	X				
Christina Wong	X				

2. AB 1775 – Veterans

MOTION:	Vice-President Ruffino and Dr. Amistad moved to take a watch position on AB 1775 as introduced on February 9, 2026.
VOTE:	12-0, Motion Carried

Member Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Recusal
President Martinez	X				
Vice-President Ruffino	X				
Fel Amistad	X				
Alireza Asgari	X				
Rossana D’Antonio	X				
Desirea Haggard	X				
Michael Hartley	X				
Betsy Mathieson	X				
Wilfredo Sanchez	X				
Fermin Villegas	X				
Cliff Waldeck	X				
Christina Wong	X				

3. AB 1933 – Land surveyors: records of survey

MOTION:	Vice-President Ruffino and Mr. Hartley moved to take a Watch position on AB 1933 as introduced on February 13, 2026, and direct Staff to continue working with the bill’s sponsor and author to address the Board’s concerns and revise the language as appropriate.
VOTE:	12-0, Motion Carried

Member Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Recusal
President Martinez	X				
Vice-President Ruffino	X				
Fel Amistad	X				
Alireza Asgari	X				
Rossana D’Antonio	X				
Desirea Haggard	X				
Michael Hartley	X				

Betsy Mathieson	X				
Wilfredo Sanchez	X				
Fermin Villegas	X				
Cliff Waldeck	X				
Christina Wong	X				

4. AB 1999 – Land Surveyors: photogrammetry

MOTION:	Ms. Wong and Mr. Hartley moved to take a watch position on AB 1999 as introduced on February 17, 2026
VOTE:	12-0, Motion Carried

Member Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Recusal
President Martinez	X				
Vice-President Ruffino	X				
Fel Amistad	X				
Alireza Asgari	X				
Rossana D'Antonio	X				
Desirea Haggard	X				
Michael Hartley	X				
Betsy Mathieson	X				
Wilfredo Sanchez	X				
Fermin Villegas	X				
Cliff Waldeck	X				
Christina Wong	X				

5. AB 2287 – Contractors: disciplinary action

During Public Comment, William Estepa representing American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) stated the organization's formal opposition to the bill. Mr. Estepa argued that the proposed carve-out risks undermining the enforcement of existing building laws. He further contended that the legislation blurs the distinction between construction activities and professional engineering and surveying services, potentially increasing liability for firms and compromising established scope of practice protections.

Rob Carrion, representing Operating Engineers Local 3, echoed Mr. Estepa's comment. The language that is being proposed states that the licensee who engages in the use of technologies, tools, and equipment while performing construction work pursuant to this chapter shall not be subject to disciplinary action. It is opening the surveying industry for anyone that has some form of license to perform surveying without being disciplined. He noted that discussions with the bill's proponents confirmed this broad interpretation of the language. Due to these significant risks to

the practice and public protection, the Operating Engineers formally recommended that the Board oppose the bill.

Following further discussion, Mr. Carrion stated that it was his understanding that the bill is currently on hold and will not proceed during this legislative session.

MOTION:	Mr. Hartley and Dr. Amistad moved to oppose unless amended on AB 2287 as introduced on February 19, 2026
VOTE:	12-0, Motion Carried

Member Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Recusal
President Martinez	X				
Vice-President Ruffino	X				
Fel Amistad	X				
Alireza Asgari	X				
Rossana D'Antonio	X				
Desirea Haggard	X				
Michael Hartley	X				
Betsy Mathieson	X				
Wilfredo Sanchez	X				
Fermin Villegas	X				
Cliff Waldeck	X				
Christina Wong	X				

6. Senate Bill (SB) 1011 – Energy: Utility Infrastructure AI Safety, Oversight, and Workforce Protection Act

MOTION:	Ms. Haggard and Mr. Villegas moved to take a watch position on SB 1011 as introduced on February 10, 2026
VOTE:	11-1, Motion Carried

Member Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Recusal
President Martinez	X				
Vice-President Ruffino	X				
Fel Amistad	X				
Alireza Asgari	X				
Rossana D'Antonio	X				
Desirea Haggard	X				
Michael Hartley	X				
Betsy Mathieson		X			
Wilfredo Sanchez	X				
Fermin Villegas	X				
Cliff Waldeck	X				

Christina Wong	X				
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7. SB 1248 – State agencies: automated decision systems

MOTION:	Mr. Hartley and Ms. Wong moved to take a watch position on SB 1248 as introduced on February 19, 2026
VOTE:	12-0, Motion Carried

Member Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Recusal
President Martinez	X				
Vice-President Ruffino	X				
Fel Amistad	X				
Alireza Asgari	X				
Rossana D’Antonio	X				
Desirea Haggard	X				
Michael Hartley	X				
Betsy Mathieson	X				
Wilfredo Sanchez	X				
Fermin Villegas	X				
Cliff Waldeck	X				
Christina Wong	X				

VIII. Rulemaking Status Report

A. Pending Rulemaking Efforts – Status Report

Mr. Moore reported that the fees rulemaking package is moving through the process and anticipates final approval by April 1, which would allow the new fee structure to be reflected on the July 1 renewal notices.

Mr. Moore introduced DCA’s Rulemaking legal counsel, Deepi Miller.

B. Request for the Board to Revise California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 5, §§ 400-476 and Division 29, §§ 3000-3067 to Use Gender-Neutral Language (**Possible Action**)

Mr. Moore addressed the Board’s position on adopting gender-neutral language, confirming that while the Board supports this objective, implementation is affected by significant workload and procedural challenges. The change in language would be subject to justification. He noted that the complexity and scale of the proposed revisions may prevent the use of a Section 100 amendment process. As a result, the Board is evaluating the most efficient path forward.

Mr. Moore presented language that is in an existing section in the Geologist and Geophysicist regulations. This language has been there for many years and suggested that the board could consider utilizing and modifying it to today’s standards and add it into the Engineers and Land Surveyors regulations in lieu of making a universal change throughout the entire document. This language

could make all gendered references throughout the document as gender-neutral, achieving compliance without a full-scale rewrite.

Mr. Moore explained that the Board proactively incorporates these changes whenever relevant statutes are opened for legislative review such as changing “registered” to “licensed”. As with any legislative amendment it would require a formal draft process through the Legislative Council, which would result in a comprehensive review of the affected language.

During Public Comment, Krystinne Mica, Executive Director of the Structural Engineers Association of California (SEAOC) addressed the Board and reported that they reviewed the staff report and appreciate the thoughtful analysis and understand the concerns raised by the rulemaking process and trust that if the Board chooses to move forward, staff and regulatory counsel will identify the most appropriate path to achieve this goal. They asked the Board to take the first step and proceed with this effort. SEAOC made this request because the language of the governing regulation signals who belongs in this profession. Gender pronouns are not a neutral choice and potentially exclude engineers and geoscientists who do not use those pronouns at a time when gender non-conforming professionals are facing increasing legal pressure. California’s licensing framework has the opportunity to lead with inclusion. SEAOC is grateful for the Board's consideration and hopeful for their support.

During Public Comment an individual by the name of Gwen strongly advocated for a comprehensive update to the board rules and regulations to remove all gendered language immediately. While a “piecemeal” approach has been suggested, addressing these changes only as they arise is inefficient and risks leaving outdated language in place indefinitely. A universal update ensures consistency, inclusivity, and professional alignment across all our governing documents at once.

MOTION:	Ms. D’Antonio and Ms. Wong moved to direct Board staff to prepare regulatory options to achieve gender neutral language in existing regulations and present it to the Board for review and consideration.
VOTE:	12-0, Motion Carried

Member Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Recusal
President Martinez	X				
Vice-President Ruffino	X				
Fel Amistad	X				
Alireza Asgari	X				
Rossana D’Antonio	X				
Desirea Haggard	X				

Michael Hartley	X				
Betsy Mathieson	X				
Wilfredo Sanchez	X				
Fermin Villegas	X				
Cliff Waldeck	X				
Christina Wong	X				

IX. Executive Officer's Report

A. Personnel

Mr. Moore reported that there are currently no vacancies. The Board extended its best wishes to Board Liaison Celina Calderone, who is retiring after facilitating 101 Board meetings and serving 65 board members throughout her career.

During Public Comment, former Board member Kathy Jones Irish extended her congratulations to Celina Calderone on her retirement.

B. ABET

No report given.

C. Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG)

1. April 9–11, 2026, Council of Examiners Workshop, Branson, MO – Delegate

a. Subject Matter Expert Funding Status for Out-of-State Travel

Mr. Moore reported that the Board has chosen Ms. Mathieson to attend the workshop and the out-of-state request has been submitted for approval.

D. National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES)

1. April 30-May 2, 2026, Western Zone Interim Meeting, Bend, OR

a. Funded Delegate Status

The Out-of-state travel request has been submitted.

b. Meeting News and Updates

Mr. Moore reported that several charges are currently under discussion, though no formal motions have been brought forward at this time. Key topics include: a possible geospatial mapping examination, formerly referred to as mapping science exam; a motion regarding member board administrators being placed on the Board of Directors; the Structural Engineering Task Force has a charge to develop significant structures in model laws; and an election for the Zone Vice-President as discussed at the January meeting and a Zone Assistant Vice-President. Ms. Wong reported that the nominations for those two positions have closed and Western Zone has a slate of nominations.

- c. Nomination of Associate Members - Brook Grabowski, Enforcement Manager and Dawn Hall, Administrative Unit Manager. **(Possible Action)**

MOTION:	Vice-President Ruffino and Ms. D'Antonio moved to approve nominations for both Brook Grabowski and Dawn Hall to become Associate Members of the California Board with NCEES.
VOTE:	12-0, Motion Carried

Member Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Recusal
President Martinez	X				
Vice-President Ruffino	X				
Fel Amistad	X				
Alireza Asgari	X				
Rossana D'Antonio	X				
Desirea Haggard	X				
Michael Hartley	X				
Betsy Mathieson	X				
Wilfredo Sanchez	X				
Fermin Villegas	X				
Cliff Waldeck	X				
Christina Wong	X				

- d. Discussion on Recommendations to NCEES for Funding Committee Chairs to Attend NCEES Interim and Annual Meetings. **(Possible Action)**

MOTION:	Vice-President Ruffino and Ms. Mathieson moved to recommend to NCEES President-Elect, to assign a charge to the appropriate committee to study the feasibility of funding national committee chairs to all zone interim meetings and report back to the council.
VOTE:	12-0, Motion Carried

Member Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Recusal
President Martinez	X				
Vice-President Ruffino	X				
Fel Amistad	X				
Alireza Asgari	X				
Rossana D'Antonio	X				
Desirea Haggard	X				
Michael Hartley	X				
Betsy Mathieson	X				
Wilfredo Sanchez	X				

Fermin Villegas	X				
Cliff Waldeck	X				
Christina Wong	X				

Vice-President Ruffino requested that staff place an agenda item on the May 2026 agenda to nominate him for NCEES Treasurer.

X. President’s Report/Board Member Activities

Ms. Mathieson reported that she completed her Form 700.

Mr. Hartley reported that he and Senior Registrar Land Surveyor Dallas Sweeney spoke at the Fresno State Geomatics Conference in January about the path to licensure and it was well received.

Ms. Wong attended the NCEES national Committee on Finance meeting on February 17th. There will be a full Finance Committee meeting next week and the Western Zone nominating committee meeting.

Vice-President Ruffino reported that he attended DCA’s vice-president training and also the 2026 State of the Council meeting for NCEES.

President Martinez requested volunteers to serve as the nominating committee for selection of a Board President and Vice President for 2026-27 and provide a nomination slate at the May 14-15, 2026 Board meeting for discussion and election. Past Presidents Christina Wong and Mike Hartley volunteered to be the nominating committee

XI. Approval of Meeting Minutes (Possible Action)

A. Approval of January 15, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes

MOTION:	Dr. Amistad and Mr. Hartley moved to approve the minutes of the January 15, 2026 Board meeting.
VOTE:	12-0, Motion Carried

Member Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Recusal
President Martinez	X				
Vice-President Ruffino	X				
Fel Amistad	X				
Alireza Asgari	X				
Rossana D’Antonio	X				
Desirea Haggard	X				
Michael Hartley	X				
Betsy Mathieson			X		
Wilfredo Sanchez	X				
Fermin Villegas	X				
Cliff Waldeck	X				

Christina Wong	X				
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XII. Closed Session – The Board met in Closed Session to discuss, as needed:

- A. Deliberate on a Decision(s) to be Reached in a Proceeding(s) Required to be Conducted Pursuant to Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500), as Authorized by Government Code Section 11126(c)(3).
- B. Confer with, or Receive Advice from, Its Legal Counsel Regarding Pending Litigation Pursuant to Government Code Section 11126(e)(1) and (2)(A), on the following matters:
 1. Crownholm et al. v. Moore, et al. No. 24-276, cert. pending (filed Sep. 9, 2024), Supreme Court of the United States, Crownholm, et al. v. Moore, et al. (No. 23-15138) (9th Cir. April 16, 2024)
 2. Shahrokh Esmaily-Radvar vs. Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists, Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 25STCP02175
 3. James MacGregor Renfrew, Jr. vs. Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists, Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 25STCP02233

XIII. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:11 p.m.

PUBLIC PRESENT

- Abraham Hessabi, PECCG
- William Estepa, ACEC
- Krystinne Mica, SEAOC
- Rob Carrion, OE3
- Alberto Felix, OE3

XV. Adjourn
