Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

Gavin Newsom, Governor

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

Thursday, November 5, 2026, beginning at 9:00 a.m., and continuing Friday, November 6, 2026, if necessary

Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists
2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, 3rd Floor Conference Room
Sacramento, CA 95833

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

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

BOARD MEETING — NOVEMBER 4 5, 2026

Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists
2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, 3rd Floor Conference Room
Sacramento, CA 95833

BOARD MEMBERS

President Frank Ruffino; Vice-President Desirea Haggard; Fel Amistad; Alireza Asgari; Ajay Bhutoria; Rossana D'Antonio; Michael Hartley; Guillermo Martinez; 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**<br>**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. | 11 |
| **IV.** | **Hearing on the Petition for Reduction/Modification of Penalty for Harry Babicka**<br>**NOTE:** This hearing will be held on Thursday, November 5, 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 Reduction/Modification of Penalty to decide that matter, pursuant to Government Code Section 11126(c)(3)**.** | 13 |
| **V.** | **Closed Session – The Board will meet in Closed Session to discuss, as needed:**<br>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).<br>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:<br>1. Hossein Eftekhari v. Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists, Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 25WM000236<br>2. Shahrokh Esmaily-Radvar vs. Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists, Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 25STCP02175 / Second Appellate District, Case No. B356005 | 15 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 3. James MacGregor Renfrew, Jr. vs. Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists, Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 25STCP02233 / Second Appellate District, Case No. B355777 | |
| **VI.** | **Administration** | 17 |
| | A. Fiscal Year 2025/26 Budget Report | |
| | B. Fiscal Year 2026/27 Budget Report | |
| **VII.** | **Enforcement** | 25 |
| | A. Enforcement Statistical Reports | |
| | 1. Fiscal Year 2026/27 Update | |
| **VIII.** | **Exams/Licensing** | 33 |
| | A. Examination/Licensing Updates | |
| **IX.** | **Legislation** | 35 |
| | A. 2026 Legislative Calendar | 36 |
| | B. Discussion of Legislation for 2026 **(Possible Action)** | |
| | 1. Assembly Bill (AB) 1693 – Accelerated retailer building plan approval | 38 |
| | 2. AB 1767 – Public members of boards: conflict of interest | 48 |
| | 3. AB 1775 – Veterans | 51 |
| | 4. AB 1796 – Licensed Professional Interior Designer Act | 60 |
| | 5. AB 1933 – Land surveyors: records of survey | 91 |
| | 6. AB 2287 – Contractors: disciplinary action | 99 |
| | 7. AB 2435 – Land Surveyors | 102 |
| | 8. Senate Bill (SB) 1011 – Energy: Utility Infrastructure AI Safety, Oversight, and Workforce Protection Act | 108 |
| | 9. SB 1248 – State agencies: automated decision systems | 117 |
| **X.** | **Rulemaking** | 125 |
| | A. Pending Rulemaking Efforts – Status Report | 127 |
| | B. Consideration of Rulemaking Proposal | 129 |
| | 1. Discussion to Initiate Rulemaking to Amend California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 5, Section 405, and Division 29, Section 3004, Delegation of Certain Functions **(Possible Action)** | |
| **XI.** | **Executive Officer's Report** | 133 |
| | A. Personnel | |
| | B. ABET | |
| | C. Update on Launch of License Renewal Assessment | |
| | D. Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG) | |
| | 1. Report from Fall Council of Examiners (COE) Workshop and Annual Meeting October 27-31, 2026 | |
| | E. National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) | |
| | 1. Report from Annual Meeting August 17-21, 2026 **(Possible Action)** | |
| | F. 2027 Proposed Board Meeting Schedule **(Possible Action)** | 135 |
| | G. Update on Outreach Efforts | 136 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **XII.** | **President's Report/Board Member Activities** | 139 |
| **XIII.** | **Approval of Meeting Minutes (Possible Action)**<br>A. Approval of September 10, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes | 141 |
| **XIV.** | **Adjourn** | 149 |

## I. Roll Call to Establish a Quorum

## II. Pledge of Allegiance

**III. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda**

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**VI. Administration**

A. Fiscal Year 2025/26 Budget Report
B. Fiscal Year 2026/27 Budget Report

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# GUIDE TO READING THE REVENUE REPORT AND EXPENDITURE REPORT

## Revenues

Total revenue is up $279,216 (2%) 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.

**Current Year Projections**
Identifies the revenue amount that BPELSG projects for FY 2025-26.

| Revenue Category | PRIOR YEAR FY 2023-24 FM 12 | PRIOR YEAR FY 2024-25 FM 12 | CURRENT YEAR FY 2025-26 FM 12 | CURRENT YEAR FY 2025-26 PROJECTION |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Delinquent Fees | $113,041 | $79,178 | $ 66,541 | $81,151 |
| Other Regulatory Fees | $ 77,530 | $103,800 | $150,093 | $90,609 |
| Other Regulatory Licenses & Permits | $2,240,970 | $2,138,551 | $ 2,395,386 | $2,243,203 |
| Other Revenue | $201,029 | $272,875 | $231,614 | $26,771 |
| Renewal Fees | $10,024,260 | $ 9,299,181 | $10,092,413 | $10,308,825 |
| Total | $12,656,830 | $ 11,893,585 | $12,936,046 | $12,750,559 |

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

**Prior Year**
Revenue collected up to FM 12 in 2023-24.

**Prior Year**
Revenue collected up to FM 12 in 2024-25.

**Current Year**
Revenue collected up to FM 12 in 2025-26.

Department of Consumer Affairs
Expenditure Projection Report
Fiscal Month: 12
Fiscal Year: 2025 - 2026
Run Date: 08/13/2026

**Fiscal Month**
Identifies the expenditures up to June 2026
**Fiscal Year**
Identifies the current year
**Run Date**
Identifies the date this report was pulled from QBIRT

**CY 25-26 YTD + Encumbrance**
Total Expenses collected up to FM 12 in CY 25-26.

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

PERSONAL SERVICES

| Notes | Fiscal Code | PY 24-25 FM 12 YTD + Encumbrance | CY 25-26 FM 12 YTD + Encumbrance | Governor's Budget | Percent of Governor's Budget Spent | Projections to Year End |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 5100 PERMANENT POSITIONS | $3,675,573 | $3,719,239 | $3,684,000 | 101% | $3,719,239 |
| | 5100 TEMPORARY POSITIONS | $29,136 | $55,480 | $232,000 | 24% | $55,480 |
| | 5105-5108 PER DIEM, OVERTIME, & LUMP SUM | $12,900 | $13,000 | $37,000 | 35% | $13,000 |
| | 5150 STAFF BENEFITS | $2,054,607 | $2,227,897 | $1,989,000 | 112% | $2,227,897 |
| | **PERSONAL SERVICES** | **$5,772,217** | **$6,015,616** | **$5,942,000** | **101%** | **$6,015,616** |
| | OPERATING EXPENSES & EQUIPMENT | | | | | |
| 2 | 5301 GENERAL EXPENSE | $82,762 | $86,524 | $56,000 | 155% | $86,524 |
| | 5302 PRINTING | $64,303 | $100,789 | $46,000 | 219% | $100,789 |
| | 5304 COMMUNICATIONS | $5,820 | $8,248 | $35,000 | 24% | $8,248 |
| | OPERATING EXPENSES & EQUIPMENT | $5,950,042 | $6,339,027 | $7,661,000 | 83% | $6,339,027 |
| | TOTALS | $11,722,258 | $12,354,643 | $13,603,000 | 91% | $12,354,643 |
| 8 | 4840-4850 REIMBURSEMENTS | | | | | $196,361 |
| | OVERALL TOTALS | | | | | $12,158,282 |
| | | | | SURPLUS/(DEFICIT): | | 12% |

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

**PY 24-25 YTD + Encumbrance**
Total Expenses collected up to FM 12 in CY 24-25.

**Percent of Governor's Budget spent**
Identifies the percentage spent in CY 25-26 FM 12 according to the Governor's Budget.

**Projections to Year End**
Identifies the expenditure amount that BPELSG projects for CY 25-26.

**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.

**Department of Consumer Affairs**
**Expenditure Projection Report**
**Fiscal Month: 13**
**Fiscal Year: 2025 - 2026**
**Run Date: 09/01/2026**

**PERSONAL SERVICES**

| Notes | Fiscal Code | PY 24-25 FM 13 YTD + Encumbrance | CY 25-26 FM 13 YTD + Encumbrance | Governor's Budget | Percent of Governor's Budget Spent | Projections to Year End |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 5100 PERMANENT POSITIONS | $3,680,969 | $3,722,149 | $3,684,000 | 101% | $3,722,149 |
| | 5100 TEMPORARY POSITIONS | $29,136 | $55,480 | $232,000 | 24% | $55,480 |
| | 5105-5108 PER DIEM, OVERTIME, & LUMP SUM | $13,900 | $13,000 | $37,000 | 35% | $13,000 |
| | 5150 STAFF BENEFITS | $2,054,565 | $2,223,439 | $1,989,000 | 112% | $2,223,439 |
| | **PERSONAL SERVICES** | **$5,778,571** | **$6,014,067** | **$5,942,000** | **101%** | **$6,014,067** |
| | **OPERATING EXPENSES & EQUIPMENT** | | | | | |
| 2 | 5301 GENERAL EXPENSE | $93,933 | $93,820 | $56,000 | 168% | $93,820 |
| | 5302 PRINTING | $64,303 | $100,789 | $46,000 | 219% | $100,789 |
| | 5304 COMMUNICATIONS | $6,358 | $11,377 | $35,000 | 33% | $11,377 |
| | 5306 POSTAGE | $26,160 | $26,279 | $58,000 | 45% | $26,279 |
| | 53202-204 IN STATE TRAVEL | $44,188 | $51,848 | $90,000 | 58% | $51,848 |
| | 53206-208 OUT OF STATE TRAVEL | $1,697 | $4,507 | $0 | 0% | $4,507 |
| | 5322 TRAINING | $2,000 | $350 | $15,000 | 120% | $350 |
| 3 | 5324 FACILITIES | $484,533 | $491,562 | $377,000 | 130% | $491,562 |
| 4 | 53402-53403 C/P SERVICES (INTERNAL) | $701,514 | $707,349 | $1,404,000 | 50% | $707,349 |
| 5 | 53404-53405 C/P SERVICES (EXTERNAL) | $2,275,836 | $2,438,147 | $3,112,000 | 78% | $2,438,147 |
| 6 | 5342 DEPARTMENT PRORATA | $1,859,941 | $2,103,534 | $2,324,000 | 91% | $2,103,534 |
| 7 | 5342 DEPARTMENTAL SERVICES | $30,688 | $30,558 | $25,000 | 122% | $30,558 |
| | 5344 CONSOLIDATED DATA CENTERS | $25,014 | $23,761 | $22,000 | 108% | $23,761 |
| | 5346 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY | $254,521 | $2,155 | $94,000 | 2% | $2,155 |
| | 5362-5368 EQUIPMENT | $25,391 | $135,243 | $0 | 0% | $135,243 |
| | 5390 OTHER ITEMS OF EXPENSE | $0 | $0 | $3,000 | 0% | $0 |
| | 54 SPECIAL ITEMS OF EXPENSE | $3,511 | $2,776 | $0 | 0% | $2,776 |
| | **OPERATING EXPENSES & EQUIPMENT** | **$5,899,587** | **$6,224,054** | **$7,661,000** | **81%** | **$6,224,054** |
| | **TOTALS** | **$11,678,158** | **$12,238,121** | **$13,603,000** | **90%** | **$12,238,121** |
| 8 | 4840-4850 REIMBURSEMENTS | | | | | $197,292 |
| | **OVERALL TOTALS** | | | | | **$12,040,829** |
| | | | | SURPLUS/(DEFICIT): | | 13% |

# FINANCIAL REPORT

## FISCAL YEAR 2026-27 FISCAL MONTH 2 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

**Revenues**

Total revenue is down $1,599,843 (-68%) over Prior Year 2024-25. Current Fiscal Year 2026-27 is a low volume year for renewals therefore we are comparing it to Prior Year 2024-25 due to it also being a low volume year for renewals.

| Revenue Category | PRIOR YEAR FY 2024-25 FM 2 | PRIOR YEAR FY 2025 26 FM 2 | CURRENT YEAR FY 2026 27 FM 2 | CURRENT YEAR FY 2026-27 PROJECTION |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Delinquent Fees | $10,515 | $7,495 | $7,110 | $88,231 |
| Other Regulatory Fees | $16,080 | $18,348 | $36,745 | $126,907 |
| Other Regulatory Licenses & Permits | $340,091 | $378,125 | $560,240 | $3,153,819 |
| Other Revenue | $418 | $1,491 | $966 | $20,070 |
| Renewal Fees | $3,590,300 | $1,862,500 | $1,752,500 | $12,269,725 |
| Total | $3,957,404 | $2,267,959 | $2,357,561 | $15,658,752 |

Total Reimbursements as of FM 2 totaled $38,164 including $13,524 in Fingerprint Reports and $24,640 in US Cost Recovery. Fingerprint Report expenses are included in the General Expense category.

**Department of Consumer Affairs**
**Expenditure Projection Report**
**Fiscal Month: 2**
**Fiscal Year: 2026 - 2027**
**Run Date: 10/13/2026**

**PERSONAL SERVICES**

| Notes | Fiscal Code | PY 25-26 FM 2 YTD + Encumbrance | CY 26-27 FM 2 YTD + Encumbrance | Governor's Budget | Percent of Governor's Budget Spent | Projections to Year End |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 5100 PERMANENT POSITIONS | $609,913 | $614,904 | $3,683,000 | 17% | $3,797,045 |
| | 5100 TEMPORARY POSITIONS | $0 | $0 | $232,000 | 0% | $0 |
| | 5105-5108 PER DIEM, OVERTIME, & LUMP SUM | $1,200 | $1,300 | $37,000 | 4% | $17,000 |
| | 5150 STAFF BENEFITS | $373,381 | $391,792 | $2,001,000 | 20% | $2,278,227 |
| | | | | | | |

**OPERATING EXPENSES & EQUIPMENT**

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | 5301 GENERAL EXPENSE | $7,528 | $1,673 | $56,000 | 3% | $91,500 |
| | 5302 PRINTING | $3,350 | $53,540 | $46,000 | 116% | $56,300 |
| | 5304 COMMUNICATIONS | $154 | $100 | $35,000 | 0% | $11,700 |
| | 5306 POSTAGE | $370 | $0 | $58,000 | 0% | $27,000 |
| | 53202-204 IN STATE TRAVEL | $2,083 | $1,927 | $90,000 | 2% | $51,848 |
| | 53206-208 OUT OF STATE TRAVEL | $0 | $0 | $0 | 0% | $7,000 |
| | 5322 TRAINING | $0 | $0 | $15,000 | 0% | $500 |
| 3 | 5324 FACILITIES | $469,618 | $491,056 | $377,000 | 130% | $448,978 |
| 4 | 53402-53403 C/P SERVICES (INTERNAL) | $43,021 | $20,000 | $1,404,000 | 1% | $783,400 |
| 5 | 53404-53405 C/P SERVICES (EXTERNAL) | $1,410,649 | $1,516,575 | $3,112,000 | 49% | $2,518,514 |
| 6 | 5342 DEPARTMENT PRORATA | $576,000 | $563,000 | $2,252,000 | 25% | $2,252,000 |
| 7 | 5342 DEPARTMENTAL SERVICES | $8 | $102 | $25,000 | 0% | $31,800 |
| | 5344 CONSOLIDATED DATA CENTERS | $0 | $0 | $22,000 | 0% | $22,000 |
| | 5346 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY | $253,913 | $1,166 | $94,000 | 1% | $4,366 |
| | 5362-5368 EQUIPMENT | $115,071 | $0 | $0 | 0% | $103,000 |
| | 5390 OTHER ITEMS OF EXPENSE | $0 | $476 | $3,000 | 16% | $500 |
| | 54 SPECIAL ITEMS OF EXPENSE | $0 | $0 | $0 | 0% | $3,200 |
| | **OPERATING EXPENSES & EQUIPMENT** | **$2,881,765** | **$2,649,614** | **$7,589,000** | **35%** | **$6,413,606** |
| | **TOTALS** | **$3,866,260** | **$3,657,610** | **$13,542,000** | **27%** | **$12,505,878** |
| 8 | 4840-4850 REIMBURSEMENTS | | | | | $162,000 |
| | **OVERALL TOTALS** | | | | | **$12,343,878** |

SURPLUS/(DEFICIT): 10%

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

Prepared 10/13/2026

| PY 2025-26 Actuals and CY 2026-27 FM 2 Projections | Actual 2025-26 | CY 2026-27 | BY 2027-28 | BY+1 2028-29 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **BEGINNING BALANCE** | $ 3,680 | $ 4,104 | $ 6,365 | $ 9,391 |
| Prior Year Adjustment | $ 219 | $ 0 | $ 0 | $ 0 |
| Adjusted Beginning Balance | $ 3,899 | $ 4,104 | $ 6,365 | $ 9,391 |
| **REVENUES, TRANSFERS AND OTHER ADJUSTMENTS** | | | | |
| Revenues | | | | |
| 4121200 - Delinquent fees | $ 67 | $ 88 | $ 84 | $ 88 |
| 4127400 - Renewal fees | $ 10,093 | $ 12,270 | $ 13,317 | $ 12,270 |
| 4129200 - Other regulatory fees | $ 150 | $ 127 | $ 139 | $ 127 |
| 4129400 - Other regulatory licenses and permits | $ 2,425 | $ 3,154 | $ 3,233 | $ 3,154 |
| 4143500 - Miscellaneous Services to the Public | $ 1 | $ 0 | $ 0 | $ 0 |
| 4163000 - Income from surplus money investments | $ 291 | $ 176 | $ 176 | $ 176 |
| 4171400 - Escheat of unclaimed checks and warrants | $ 6 | $ 12 | $ 12 | $ 12 |
| Totals, Revenues | $ 13,033 | $ 15,827 | $ 16,962 | $ 15,827 |
| **TOTALS, REVENUES, TRANSFERS AND OTHER ADJUSTMENTS** | $ 13,033 | $ 15,827 | $ 16,962 | $ 15,827 |
| **TOTAL RESOURCES** | $ 16,932 | $ 19,931 | $ 23,327 | $ 25,218 |
| Expenditures: | | | | |
| 1111 Department of Consumer Affairs Regulatory Boards, Bureaus, Divisions (State Operations) | $ 12,041 | $ 12,344 | $ 12,714 | $ 13,096 |
| 9900 Statewide General Administrative Expenditures (Pro Rata) (State Operations) | $ 787 | $ 1,222 | $ 1,222 | $ 1,222 |
| **TOTALS, EXPENDITURES AND EXPENDITURE ADJUSTMENTS** | $ 12,828 | $ 13,566 | $ 13,936 | $ 14,318 |
| **FUND BALANCE** | | | | |
| Reserve for economic uncertainties | $ 4,104 | $ 6,365 | $ 9,391 | $ 10,900 |
| Months in Reserve | 3.6 | 5.5 | 8.1 | 9.1 |

**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.

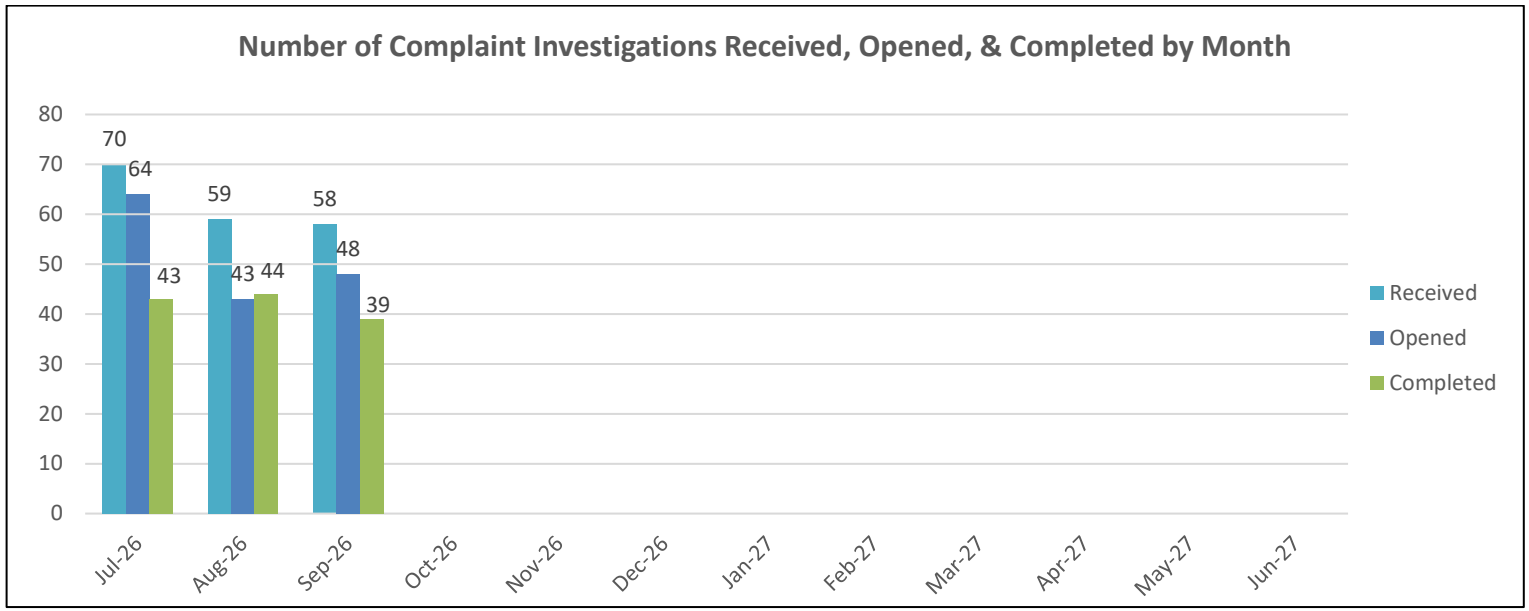
8 **Reimbursements -** Includes Reimbursements-Private Sectors (contracted with Guam to provide California Civil Seismic Principles Exams on the same dates the exam is administered in California by the Guam Registration Board at the rate of $175 per examination that are administered to applicants), Fingerprint Reports, Cost Recovery, and US DOI Civil Case.

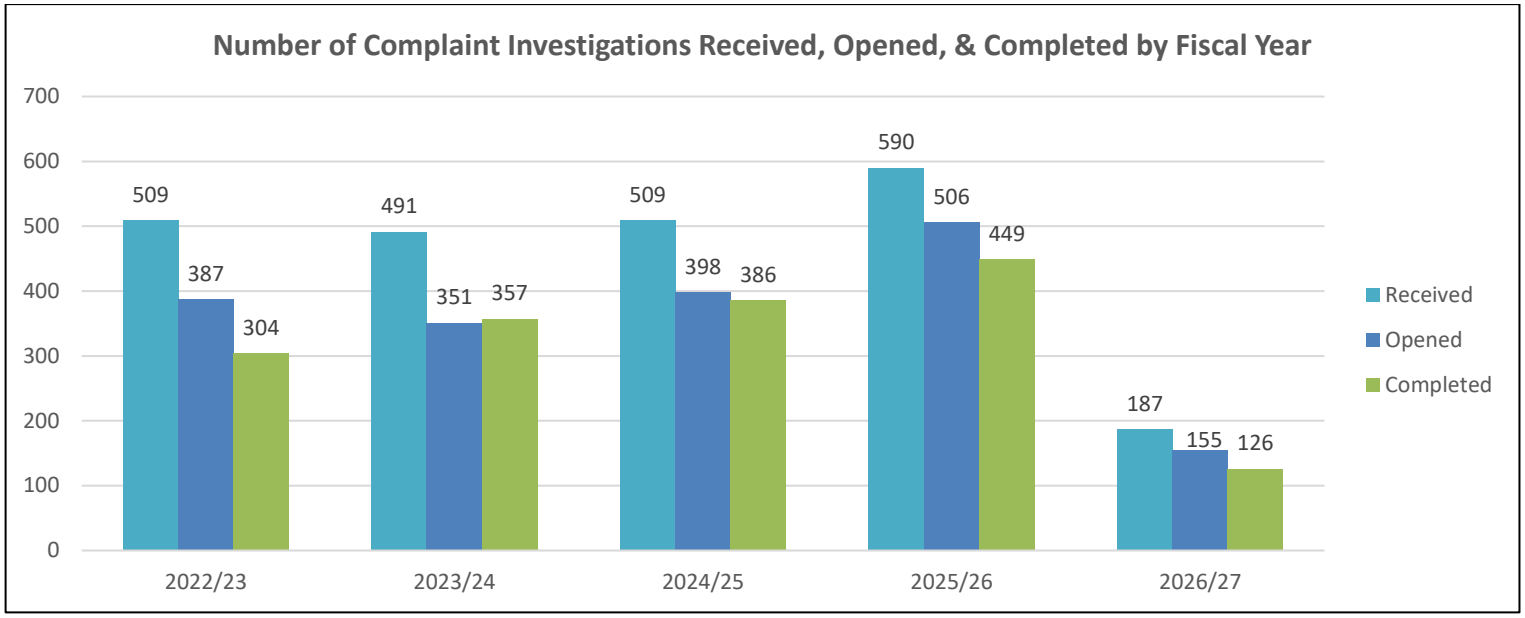
**VII. Enforcement**

A. Enforcement Statistical Reports

1. Fiscal Year 2026/27 Update

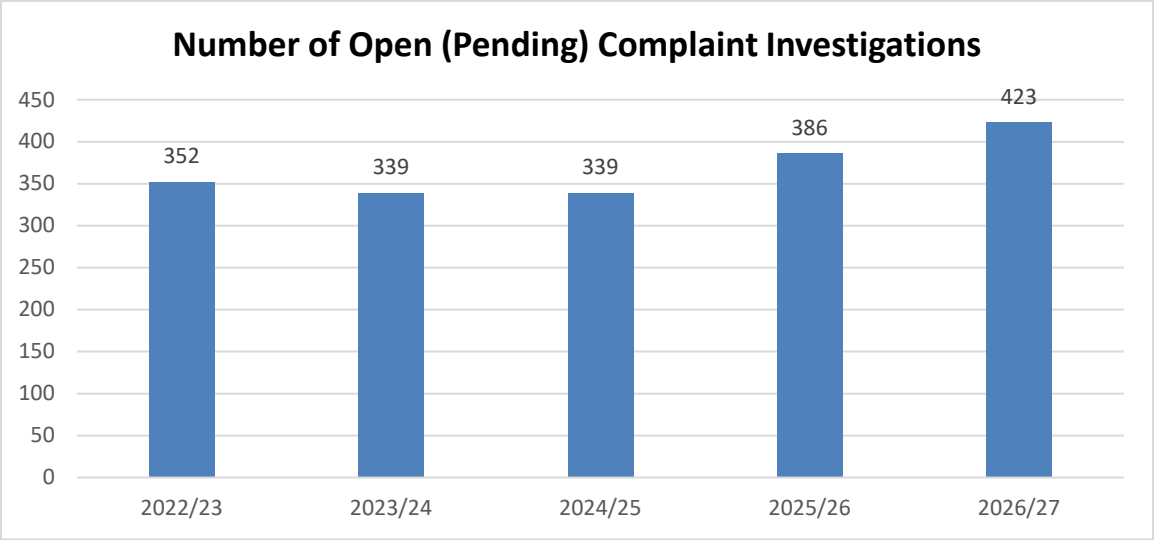
# Complaint Investigation Phase

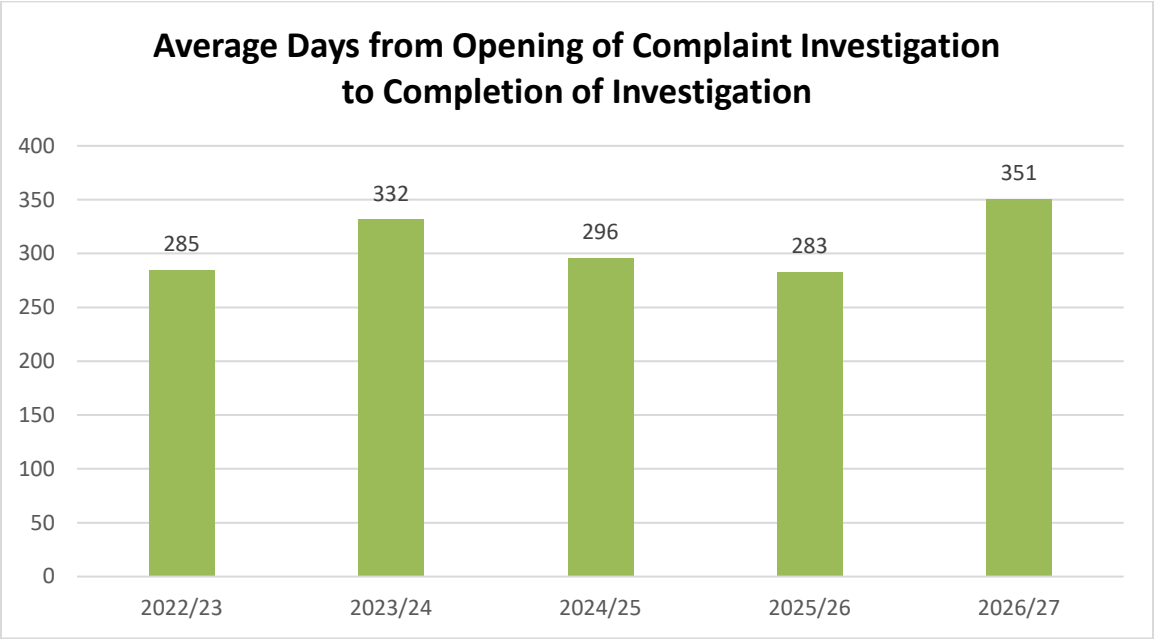



**NOTE: FY26/27 statistics are through September 30, 2026**

# Complaint Investigation Phase

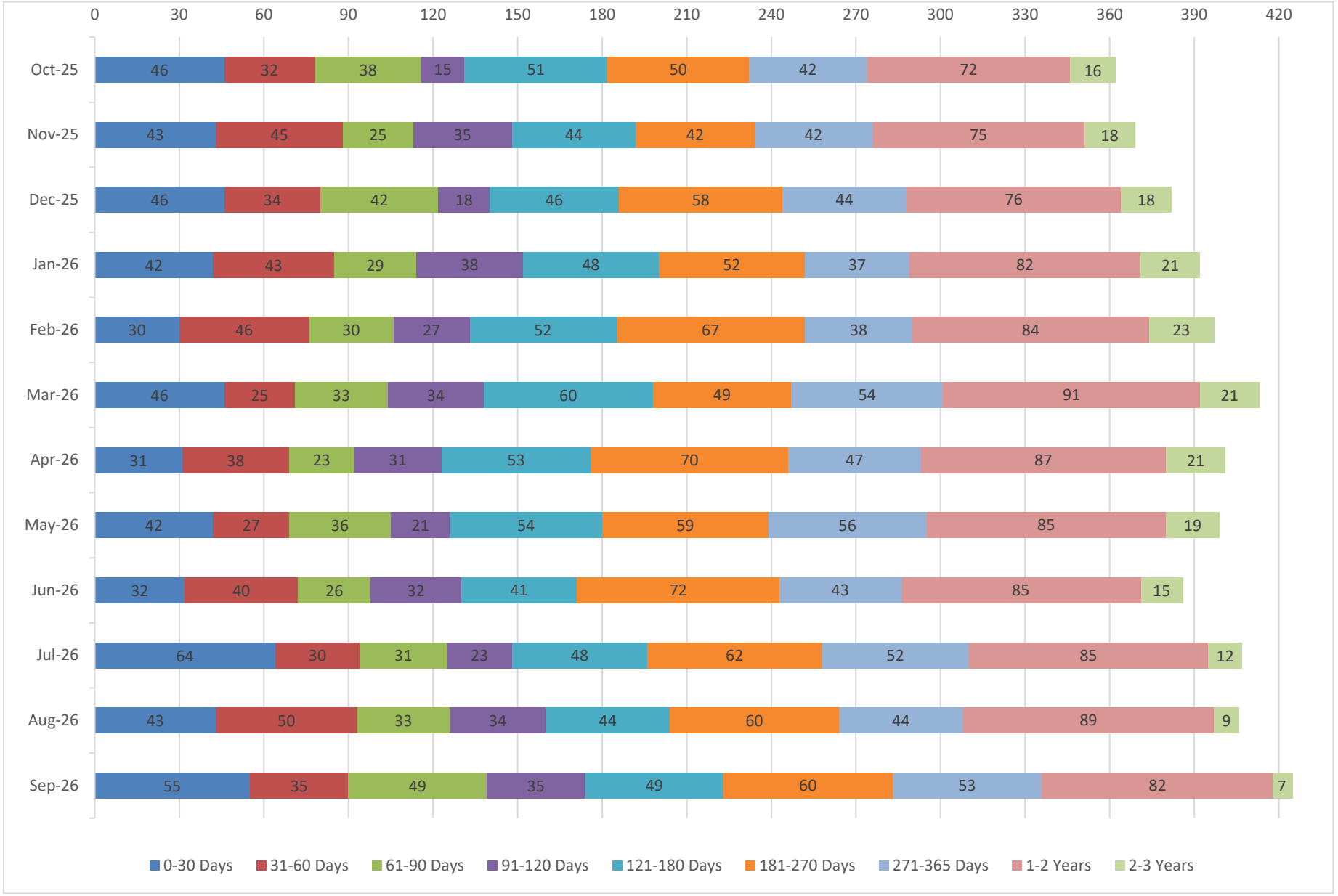


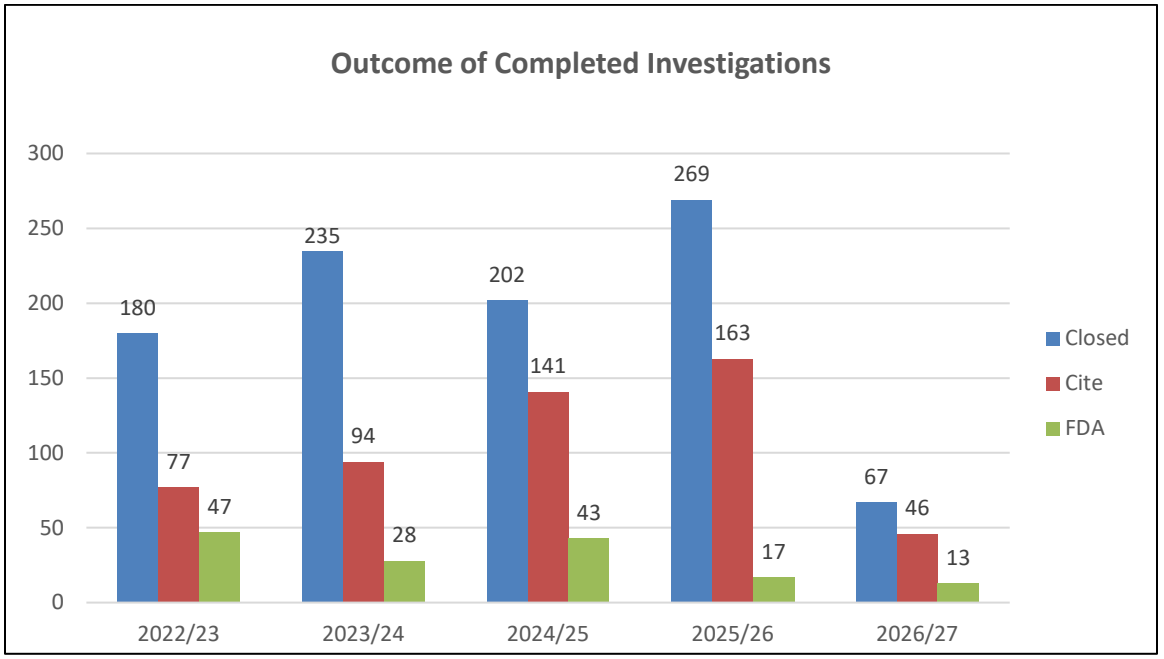

**NOTE: FY26/27 statistics are through September 30, 2026**

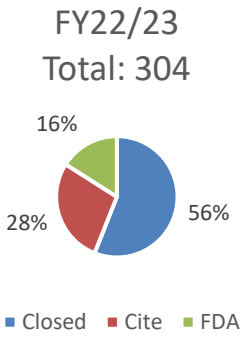
# Complaint Investigation Phase

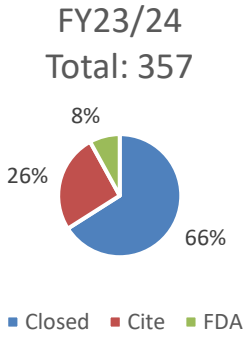
## Aging of Open (Pending) Complaint Investigation Cases – 12-Month Cycle

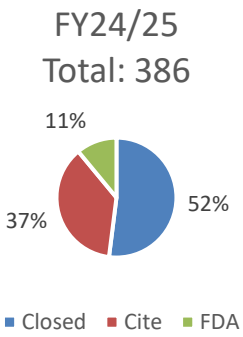


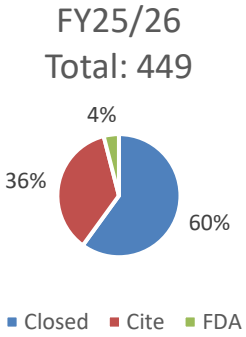
# Complaint Investigation Phase

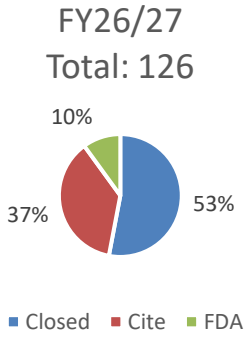


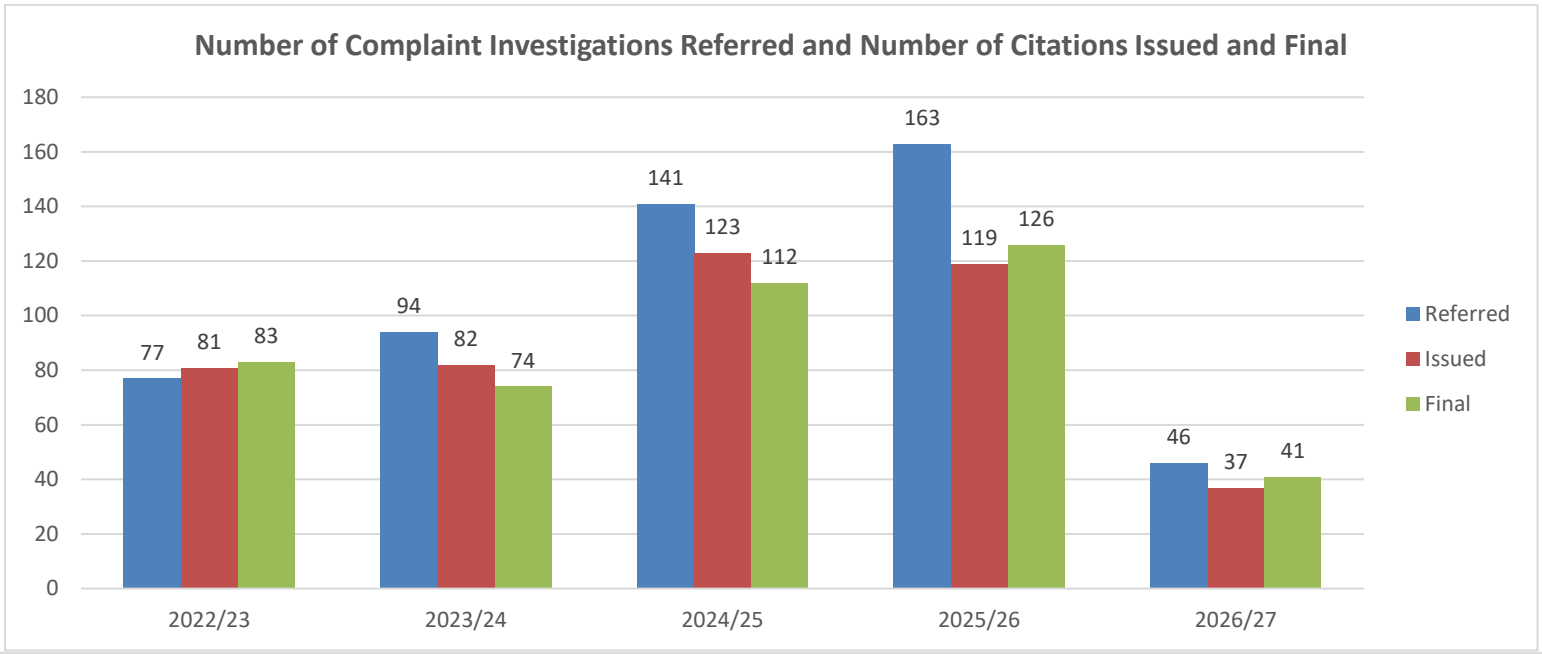

**NOTE: FY26/27 statistics are through September 30, 2026**

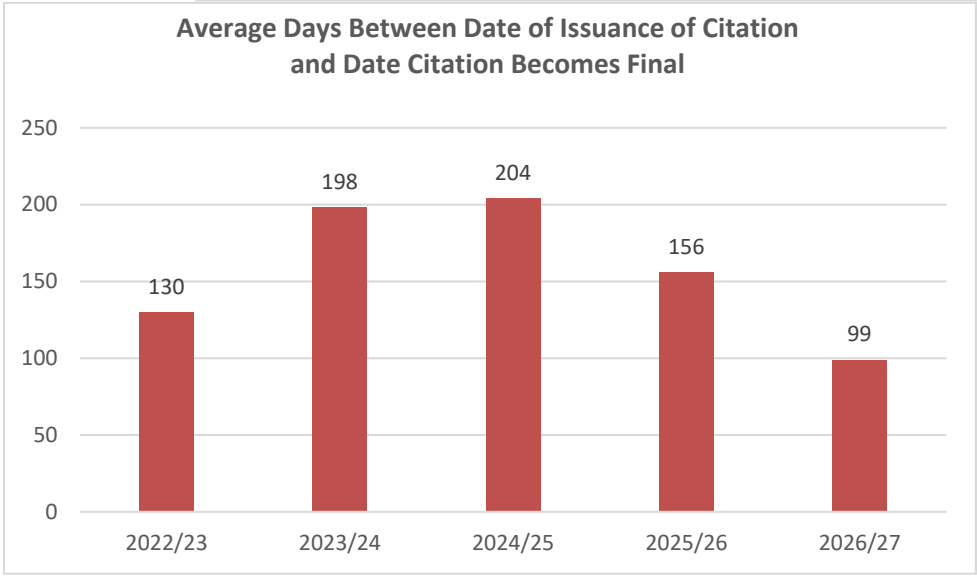
Closed = Closed with No Action Taken, includes No Violation/Insufficient Evidence; Compliance Obtained; Warning Letter; Other Reason for Closing Without Action (e.g., subject deceased); Resolved After Initial Notification; Referred to District Attorney with Request to File Criminal Charges; and Mediated.

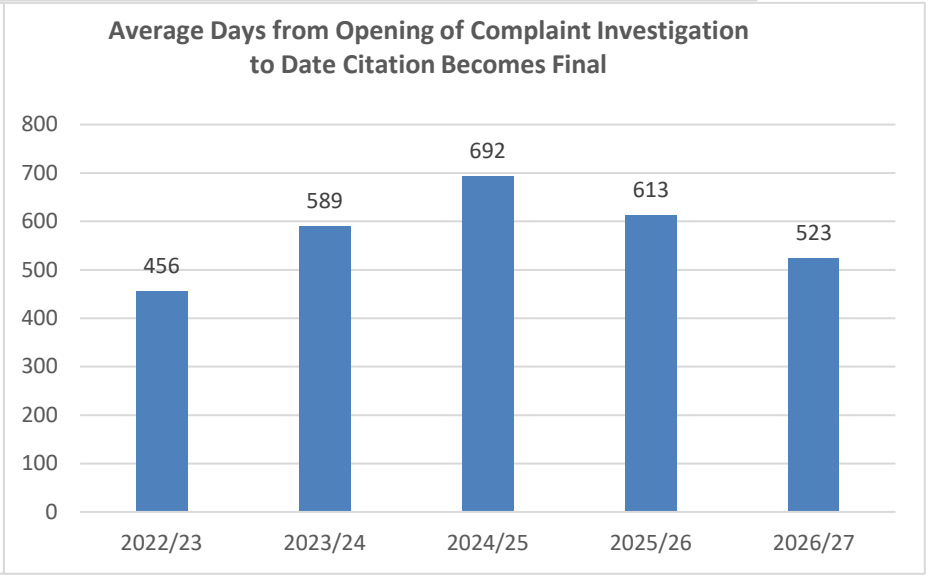
Cite = Referred for Issuance of Citation

FDA = Referred for Formal Disciplinary Action

# Citations (Informal Enforcement Actions)

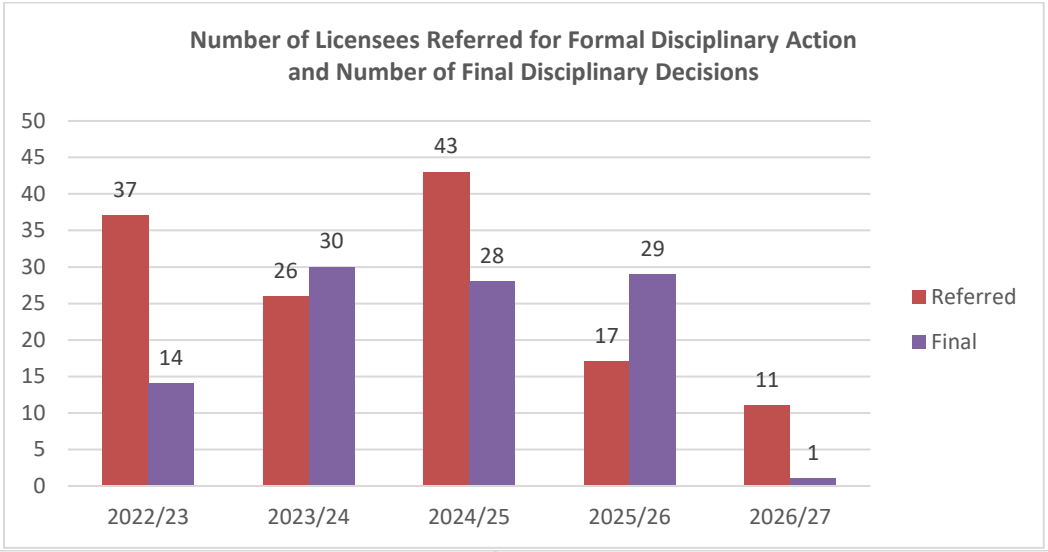


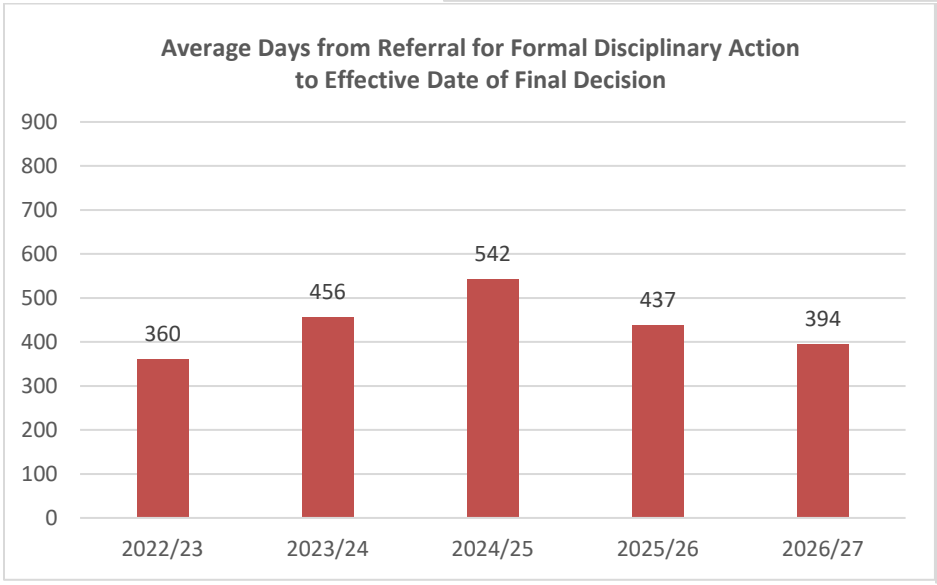



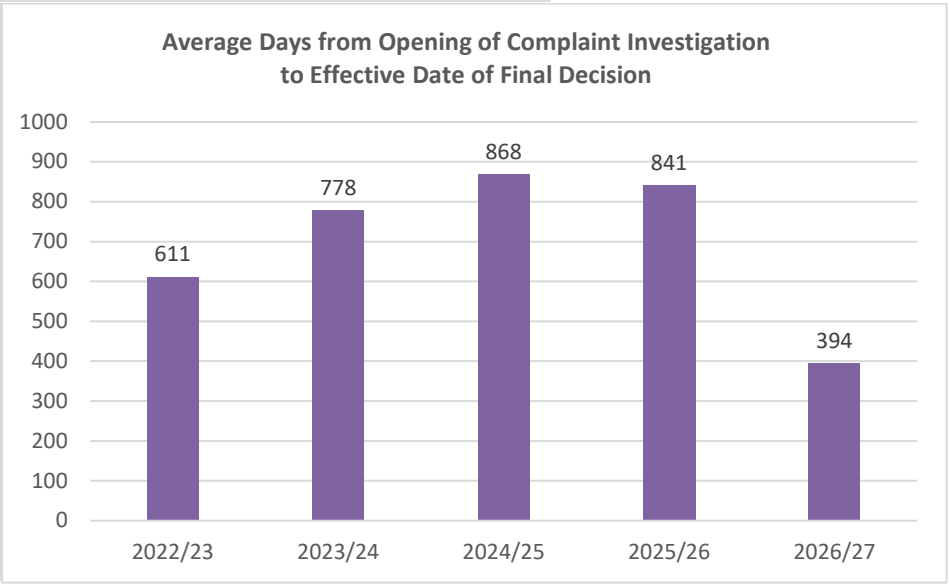




**NOTE: FY26/27 statistics are through September 30, 2026**

# Formal Disciplinary Actions Against Licensees




**NOTE: FY26/27 statistics are through September 30, 2026**

**VIII. Exams/Licensing**

A. Examination/Licensing Updates

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**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 1767 – Public members of boards: conflict of interest
3. AB 1775 – Veterans
4. AB 1796 – Licensed Professional Interior Designer Act
5. AB 1933 – Land surveyors: records of survey
6. AB 2287 – Contractors: disciplinary action
7. AB 2435 – Land Surveyors
8. Senate Bill (SB) 1011 – Energy: Utility Infrastructure AI Safety, Oversight, and Workforce Protection Act
9. SB 1248 – State agencies: automated decision systems

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# 2026 TENTATIVE LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR

COMPILED BY THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE AND THE OFFICE OF THE ASSEMBLY CHIEF CLERK

Revised September 29, 2025

| JANUARY | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | M | T | W | TH | F | S |
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| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
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| FEBRUARY | | | | | | |
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| MARCH | | | | | | |
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| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

| APRIL | | | | | | |
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| MAY | | | | | | |
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| 31 | | | | | | |

*Holiday schedule subject to Senate Rules committee approval.

## DEADLINES

**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)).

**Feb. 16** Presidents' Day.

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

**Mar. 26** **Spring Recess** begins upon adjournment (J.R. 51(b)(1)).

**Mar. 30** Cesar Chavez Day observed.

**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 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)).

# 2026 TENTATIVE LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR

COMPILED BY THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE AND THE OFFICE OF THE ASSEMBLY CHIEF CLERK

Revised September 29, 2025

| JUNE | | | | | | |
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| JULY | | | | | | |
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| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |

| AUGUST | | | | | | |
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| 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:** 7/1/26 – Passed Judiciary, referred to Committee on Appropriations; 8/3/26 – Referred to Senate Floor; 8/19/26 – Amended and ordered to Senate Floor; 8/30/26 – Passed Senate, to Enrollment, 9/30/26 – Approved by Governor, Chaptered
**Location:** 9/30/26 – Filed with Secretary of State
**Introduced:** 2/3/2026 **Amended**: 6/25/26, 8/19/26, 8/21/26
**Board Position:** 7/16/26 – Watch (as amended 6/25/26)
**Board Staff Analysis:** 10/9/26

**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 Comment Update:** The bill's amendment of 8/19/26 and 8/21/26 made minor additions to make the certifier temporary in cases of excessive delays, clarified that "retailer" does not include retail food establishments, and made minor non-substantive changes.

**UPDATE 9/30/26** – The bill was approved by the Governor and was Chaptered. AB 1693 will become effective on January 1, 2027.

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 19, 2026

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 25, 2026

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2025–26 REGULAR SESSION

# 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 5586.5 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 amended, 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. 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. *The bill would further require the use of a qualified professional certifier to be temporary in cases in which there is an excessive delay, as defined.*

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:*

SECTION 1. Section 5586.5 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

5586.5. The fact that the holder of a license who serves as a qualified professional certifier, as defined in Section 66345.1 or

66350.1 of the Government Code, makes any false statement in a certification submission pursuant to Chapter 14 (commencing with Section 66345) or Chapter 15 (commencing with Section 66350) of Division 1 of Title 7 of the Government Code constitutes grounds for disciplinary action.

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

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

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

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

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

(c) Any negligence or incompetence in their practice.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Chapter 15. Accelerated Retailer Building Plan Approval

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(c) "Tenant improvement" means a change to the interior of an existing building.

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

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

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

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

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

(3) If a complete application is denied within the 20-business-day period described in paragraph (2), the applicant may resubmit corrected plans addressing the deficiencies identified

in the initial denial. The local building department's review of each subsequent resubmission shall be limited to correcting the deficiencies identified in the initial denial. The local building department shall approve or deny each subsequent resubmission within 10 business days of receipt.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(g) A city or county may adopt requirements that do either of the following, provided that the requirements do not prohibit or effectively prohibit the use of a qualified professional certifier pursuant to this section:

(1) Limit the size of an eligible structure to no less than 10,000 square feet.

(2) Specify the types of businesses or occupancies that are eligible.

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

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

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

(c) Notwithstanding Section 815.6, 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 any permit pursuant to this chapter.

66350.5. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to authorize the displacement of public employees. ~~The use of a qualified professional certifier shall be strictly temporary in nature.~~ Local agencies shall not reduce, eliminate, or fail to fill budgeted civil service positions within the building department as a result of the use of a qualified professional certifier pursuant to this section.

*66350.6. If there is an excessive delay, as defined in paragraph (2) of subdivision (f) of Section 19837 of the Health and Safety Code, the use of a qualified professional certifier by a local agency shall be temporary and not exceed the time required to complete the review of a tenant improvement application.*

SEC. 4. The Legislature finds and declares that retailers' role in the state's economy and tourism industry is a matter of statewide concern and is not a municipal affair as that term is used in Section 5 of Article XI of the California Constitution. Therefore, Section 3 of this act adding Chapter 15 (commencing with Section 66350)

to Division 1 of Title 7 of the Government Code applies to all cities, including charter cities.

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

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**AB 1767 (Berman-D)**
**Public Members of boards; conflict of interest**

**Status/History:** Introduced 2/9/26, Amended 3/19/26 and 6/23/26
**Location:** 8/27/26-Ordered to Inactive File
**Introduced:** 2/9/2026
**Board Position:** Watch
**Board Staff Analysis:** 10/9/26

**Bill Summary:** Existing law establishes various boards, including advisory boards, commissions, examining committees, committees, or other similarly constituted bodies, within the Department of Consumer Affairs for the licensure and regulation of various professions and vocations. Existing law prohibits a public member of a board from being a current or past licensee of that board or a close family member of a licensee of that board.

This bill would define "close family member" for purposes of that provision to include a parent or child. The bill would further require each board to adopt regulations consistent with these provisions that provide guidance on how to determine whether the existence of a relationship other than a parent-child relationship prohibits an individual from serving as a public member of a board.

**Affected Laws:** An act to amend Business and Professions Code section 450.2.

**Staff Comment:** AB 1767, as introduced, identified a "close family member" as a parent, stepparent, sibling, child by blood, adoption, or marriage, spouse, domestic partner, cohabitant, stepchild, immediate in-law, aunt, uncle, first cousin, grandparent, or grandchild. The bill has since been amended to remove several of the identified relationships to only include a parent or child and subsequent regulation will give the Board guidance to use its discretion to make such a determination.

**Staff Comment Update:** Subsequent to amendment, the bill was forwarded to the Committee on Appropriations, then ordered to Consent Calendar. On 8/27/26, the bill was ordered to the inactive file at the request of Senator Ashby. No further action was taken by the Legislature by the deadline of August 31, 2026.

**Staff Recommendation**:
Since the bill cannot proceed further, no action needed at this time.

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 23, 2026

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 19, 2026

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2025–26 REGULAR SESSION

# ASSEMBLY BILL No. 1767

**Introduced by Assembly Member Berman**

February 9, 2026

An act to amend Section 450.2 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to professions and vocations.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1767, as amended, Berman. Department of Consumer Affairs: public members of boards: conflicts of interest.

Existing law establishes various boards, including advisory boards, commissions, examining committees, committees, or other similarly constituted bodies, within the Department of Consumer Affairs for the licensure and regulation of various professions and vocations. Existing law prohibits a public member of a board from being a current or past licensee of that board or a close family member of a licensee of that board.

This bill would define "close family member" for purposes of that provision to ~~mean a parent, stepparent, sibling, child by blood, adoption, or marriage, spouse, domestic partner, cohabitant, stepchild, immediate in-law, aunt, uncle, first cousin, grandparent, or grandchild.~~ *include a parent or a child. The bill would require each board within the department to adopt regulations consistent with these provisions that provide guidance on how to determine whether the existence of a relationship other than a parent-child relationship prohibits an individual from serving as a public member of a board.*

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

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

SECTION 1. Section 450.2 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

450.2. (a) In order to avoid a potential for a conflict of interest, a public member of a board shall not:

(1) Be a current or past licensee of that board.

(2) Be a close family member of a licensee of that board.

(b) For purposes of this section, "close family member" ~~means a parent, stepparent, sibling, child by blood, adoption, or marriage, spouse, domestic partner, cohabitant, stepchild, immediate in-law, aunt, uncle, first cousin, grandparent, or grandchild.~~ *includes, but is not limited to, a parent or a child.*

*(c) Each board within the department shall adopt regulations consistent with this section that provide guidance on how to determine whether the existence of a relationship other than a parent-child relationship prohibits an individual from serving as a public member of a board.*

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**AB 1775 (Ward-D and Co-Authors)**
**Veterans**

**Status/History:** 8/13/26 – Amended, Passed Appropriations Committee and ordered to Senate Floor, 8/25/26 – To Engrossing and Enrollment, 9/26/26 – Approved by Governor
**Location:** 9/26/26 – Filed Secretary of State, Chaptered
**Introduced:** 2/9/2026
**Board Position:** 7/16/26 - Watch
**Board Staff Analysis:** 10/9/26

**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.

**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.

**Updates:**
**4/7/26 Update –** Revised to add co-authors Addis and Pellerin
**5/18/26 Update** – Amended to permit the Department of Veteran's Affairs to adopt regulations to implement its related programs.
**8/13/26** – Amended to add additional co-authors, extends the requirement and authorization for the Speech-Language Pathology and Hearing Aid Dispensers Board, and makes minor, non-substantive changes.
**9/26/26** – The bill was chaptered and will become effective on January 1, 2027.

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 13, 2026

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 18, 2026

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2025–26 REGULAR SESSION

# ASSEMBLY BILL No. 1775

**Introduced by Assembly Member Ward**
**(Coauthors: Assembly Members ~~Addis and Pellerin)~~ *Addis, Haney, Pellerin, and Stefani)***
*(Coauthor: Senator Cabaldon)*

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 amended, 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 extend the requirement and authorization for the Speech-Language Pathology and*

*Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensers Board, commencing June 1, 2027*. 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~~ *recipients, regardless of discharge status,* who are able to demonstrate that their less than honorable characterization of service was connected to a ~~mental~~ *behavioral* 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.~~ *veterans.* 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~~ *recipients, regardless of discharge status,* who are able to demonstrate their less than honorable characterization of service was connected to a ~~mental~~ *behavioral* 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:*

SECTION 1. Section 115.4 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

115.4. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, *and except as provided in subdivision (e),* on and after July 1, 2016, a board within the department shall expedite, and may 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 or received a discharge solely as a result of Executive Order No. 14183 issued on January 27, 2025.

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

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

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

*(e) The requirement pursuant to subdivision (a) involving those who received a discharge solely as a result of Executive Order No. 14183 issued on January 27, 2025, shall begin on June 1, 2027, for the Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensers Board.*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

885. (a) The department shall establish the Veteran's Military Discharge Upgrade Grant Program to help fund service providers who, at no cost, will educate veterans about discharge upgrades and assist qualifying veterans in filing discharge upgrade applications.

(b) The department shall develop criteria, procedures, and accountability measures as may be necessary to implement the grant program. The department shall prioritize veteran ~~recipients~~ *recipients, regardless of discharge status,* who are able to demonstrate their less than honorable characterization of service was connected to a ~~mental~~ *behavioral* 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.

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

(d) The department may adopt regulations as necessary to implement this section.

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

886. (a) The department shall 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.~~ *veterans.*

(b) The department shall develop criteria, procedures, and accountability measures as may be necessary to implement the grant program. The department shall prioritize veteran ~~recipients~~ *recipients, regardless of discharge status,* who are able to demonstrate their less than honorable characterization of service was connected to a ~~mental~~ *behavioral* 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.

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

(d) The department may adopt regulations as necessary to implement this section.

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# 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.

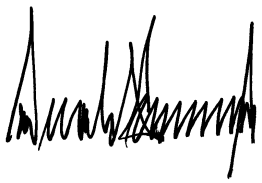
**Sec. 7**. *General Provisions.* (a) Nothing in this order shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect:

(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.



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:** Amended 3/27/26, 4/13/26, 4/16/26, 6/23/26
Referred to Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee and Committee on Public Safety.
**Location:** Senate Business, Professions, and Economic Development Committee
**Introduced:** 2/10/2026
**Board Position:** May 14, 2026 - Oppose
**Board Staff Analysis:** 10/20/26

**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.

**6/24/26 Staff Update**: Board staff issued an Oppose Unless Amended letter in accordance with the Board's May 14, 2026, position. As of the date of this analysis, the Architect's Board and the Contractors State Licensing Board have both taken an Oppose position to this bill for similar reasons.
**8/28/26 Staff Update**: The related Sunset Bill for Certified Interior Designers, AB 2772, was ordered to engrossing and enrollment on 8/27/26.

**NOTE**: Since the bill failed to pass through the Legislature by the deadline of August 31, 2026, there can be no further action.

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 23, 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**
**(~~Coauthor:~~ *(Coauthors:* Assembly~~ Member Macedo~~)** ***Members Haney, Hart, Macedo, and Zbur)***

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.

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 *licensed* 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~~

*This* bill would require the board to determine eligibility requirements, including examination and education requirements necessary for ~~licensure.~~ *licensure, as provided.* 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~~ *impose an unspecified civil penalty for engaging* in certain acts, including ~~engaging in~~ the practice of *licensed* professional interior ~~design~~ *design*, without a license. ~~By creating new crimes, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The~~

*This* 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~~

*This* 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.~~

*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:*

SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(1) In California there are roughly ~~7.5 billion~~ *7,500,000,000* square feet of existing professional buildings.

(2) More than 100,000,000 square feet of professional buildings are newly constructed across ~~California~~ *California,* and this does

not account for the remodeling of existing space, which sometimes only needs a designer.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

5510.1. The Legislature finds and declares that it is the mandate of the board to regulate the practice of architects and *licensed* professional interior designers in the interest and for the protection

of the public health, safety, and welfare. For this purpose, the board shall delineate the minimum professional qualifications and performance standards for admission to and practice of the profession of architecture pursuant to this chapter and *licensed* professional interior designers pursuant to the Licensed Professional Interior Designer Practice Act (Chapter 3.8 (commencing with Section 5700)). The board shall establish a fair and uniform enforcement policy to deter and prosecute violations of this chapter or any rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to this chapter to provide for the protection of the consumer.

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

5514. (a) The membership of the board shall be composed of 11 members, ~~five~~ *5* of whom shall be architects, ~~one~~ *1* of whom shall be a professional interior designer, and ~~five~~ *5* of whom shall be public members.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(b) The board may, by rule or regulation, adopt rules of professional conduct that are not inconsistent with state or federal

law. Every person who holds a license issued by the board shall be governed and controlled by these rules.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Chapter 3.8. Licensed Professional Interior Designer Practice Act

### Article 1. Definitions

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

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

(a) "Board" means the California Architects Board.

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

(c) "Immediate and responsible direction" means the professional interior designer does both of the following:

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

(A) A licensed professional interior designer.

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

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

(2) Exercises the same judgment and responsibility in reviewing all stages of the design documents and other phases of the work

as required by law, and which would normally be exercised if the professional interior designer personally performed the required tasks.

(d) "Licensed professional interior designer" means a person who is licensed under this chapter.

(e) "Licensed contractor" means a person licensed under Chapter 9 (commencing with Section 7000).

(f) "Professional engineer" means a person who practices or offers to practice professional engineering as described in Section 6701.

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

(A) Investigation, evaluation, consultation, and advice.

(B) The preparation of plans, specifications, documentation, and assistance in the governmental review process related to the functional and aesthetic arrangement of interior spaces, including the preparation of professional interior instruments of service.

(C) The selection and specification of materials, finishes, fixtures, and furniture.

(D) The coordination of the work with technical and special consultants.

(E) The administration of contracts and observation of construction.

(2) "Professional interior design" does not include any of the following:

(A) The practice of a professional engineer, as defined in Section 6701, or the practice of a professional land surveyor, as defined in Section 8701.

(B) Services that constitute the practice of architecture, as defined in Section 5500.1, except as otherwise provided in this chapter.

(C) Services that constitute the practice of a structural engineer, as described in Section 6763.

(D) Changes to the construction classification of the building or structure according to the California Building Standards Code.

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

(h) "Professional interior instruments of service" means the designs, drawings, and specifications that establish the scope of professional interior design to be constructed, the standard of quality for materials, workmanship, equipment, and construction systems, and the studies and other technical reports and calculations prepared in the course of the practice of *licensed* professional interior design.

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

(j) (1) "Responsible control" means the amount of control over the content of all professional interior instruments of service during their preparation that is ordinarily exercised by licensed professional interior designers applying the required professional standard of care. Professional responsibility and liability shall attach only to those aspects of the work performed within the licensed professional interior designer's scope of practice and under their responsible control.

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

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

## Article 2. Administration

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Article 3. Application of Chapter

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

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

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

*(d) The board shall not limit consideration of educational requirements for licensure to any accredited two-year, three-year, or four-year program.*

5711. (a) It is ~~a misdemeanor,~~ punishable by a ~~fine~~ *civil penalty* of not less than ____ dollars ($____) nor more than ____ dollars

($____) ~~or by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding six months, or by both that fine and imprisonment,~~ for a person to do any of the following without possessing a valid, unrevoked license as provided in this chapter:

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

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

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

(4) Advertise or put out a sign, card, or other device that might indicate to the public that they are a licensed professional interior designer or qualified to engage in the practice of *licensed* professional interior design.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

*(6) The provision of interior design or interior decorator services by any person or retail activity, if the person does not use the title "licensed professional interior designer" or "licensed professional interior design," or any title, word, or abbreviation that would imply or indicate that they are licensed under this chapter.*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(4) Professional services rendered by a licensed professional interior designer to a professional engineer registered to practice engineering under Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 6700), a land surveyor licensed under Chapter 15 (commencing with Section 8700), an architect licensed under Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 5500), or a contractor licensed under Chapter 9 (commencing with Section 7000).

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

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

(c) This chapter does not prevent a licensed professional interior designer from forming a business entity or collaborating with persons who are not licensed professional interior designers, provided that any licensed professional interior designers' professional services that are provided through that entity or collaboration are offered and provided under the responsible control of a licensed professional interior designer, or licensed professional

interior designers, and in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

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

(A) A fictitious name.

(B) The name of one or more licensed professional interior designers.

(C) The term "licensed professional interior designer," the term "licensed professional interior design," or a variation of the terms "licensed professional interior designer" and "licensed professional interior design."

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

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

(e) This chapter does not prevent a corporation from furnishing or supplying by contract licensed professional interior design services, as long as any licensed professional interior designers' professional services are offered and provided under the responsible control of a licensed professional interior designer, licensed professional interior designers, or those design professionals exempt from this chapter pursuant to Section 5715.

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

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

Article 4. Seal and Certification

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

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

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

(4) A licensed professional interior designer shall not be deemed professionally responsible for the design, performance, or adequacy of any structural, mechanical, electrical, plumbing, or fire and life safety systems not prepared by or under the responsible control of the licensed professional interior designer.

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

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

(1) A licensed professional interior designer may sign and seal those portions of the professional interior instruments of service submission that were prepared by or under the responsible control of a person who holds a license under this chapter, and who has signed and sealed the documents, if the licensed professional interior designer has reviewed in whole or in part those portions

and has either coordinated their preparation or integrated them into the work.

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

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

(d) If engineering, structural engineering, or licensed land surveying services are required in association with a project being performed by a licensed professional interior designer, the documents that have already been properly sealed by a licensed professional engineer, licensed structural engineer, or licensed land surveyor may be compiled by a licensed professional interior designer. Each design professional shall seal the respective documents and shall not seal a document that was not prepared under the design professional's responsible charge. For all other projects, engineering, structural engineering, or land surveying services shall be procured separately from the licensed professional interior designer.

## Article 5. Professional Interior Instrument of Service Submissions

5725. (a) (1) All professional interior instruments of service submissions intended for use in this state shall be prepared and administered in accordance with standards of reasonable professional skill and diligence. Care shall be taken to reflect the requirements of state law and, if applicable, county and municipal ordinances in the submissions. In recognition that professional interior designers are required to be licensed for the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare, submissions shall be of such

quality and scope, and be so administered, as to conform to professional standards.

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

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

(B) The stamp and seal of professional interior instruments of service that relate to the design of a project does not impose a legal duty or responsibility upon the person signing the professional interior instruments of service to observe the construction undertaken to create the professional interior design. However, this subparagraph does not prohibit a licensed professional interior designer and a client from entering into a contractual agreement that includes a mutually acceptable arrangement for the provision of construction observation services. This subparagraph does not modify the liability of a licensed professional interior designer who undertakes, contractually or otherwise, the provision of construction observation services for rendering those services.

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

(D) In the event of damage to commercial real property caused by a natural disaster declared by the Governor, a licensed professional interior designer shall not be liable for damages arising

from the reuse, replication, or reconstruction of professional interior instruments of service without the licensed professional interior designer's prior written consent if the instruments of service were not originally prepared for that reuse.

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

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

(d) Coordination with, consultation with, or incorporation of work prepared by a licensed architect, professional engineer, or other design professional shall not be construed as assuming professional responsibility or liability for such work, unless the licensed professional interior designer expressly assumes such responsibility in writing and is legally authorized to do so.

## Article 6. Discipline

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

(b) (1) An accusation against a licensed professional interior designer shall be filed within three years after the board discovers, or through the use of reasonable diligence should have discovered, the act or omission alleged as the ground for disciplinary action or within six years after the act or omission alleged as the ground for disciplinary action, whichever occurs first. However, with respect to an accusation alleging a violation of subdivision (f), the

accusation may be filed within three years after the discovery by the board of the alleged facts constituting the fraud or misrepresentation prohibited by subdivision (f).

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

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

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

(2) A revoked license is subject to expiration as provided in this chapter, but it may not be renewed. If it is reinstated after its expiration, the licensed professional interior designer, as a condition precedent to its reinstatement, shall pay a reinstatement fee in an amount equal to the renewal fee in effect on the last regular renewal date before the date on which it is reinstated, plus the delinquency fee, if any, accrued at the time of its revocation.

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

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

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

(h) The fact that the licensed professional interior designer has aided or abetted in the practice of *licensed* professional interior design for any person not authorized to practice *licensed*

professional interior design under this chapter constitutes a ground for disciplinary action.

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

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

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

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

(m) The conviction of a felony in connection with the practice of licensed professional interior design is a ground for disciplinary action. The record of a conviction shall be conclusive evidence thereof.

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

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

verdict of guilty, or dismissing the accusation, information, or indictment.

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

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

(A) The title of the matter.

(B) The court or agency name.

(C) The docket number.

(D) The claim or file number.

(E) The date on which the reportable event occurred.

(3) The licensed professional interior designer shall promptly respond to oral or written inquiries from the board concerning the reportable event, including inquiries made by the board in conjunction with licensure renewal.

(4) Failure of a licensed professional interior designer to comply with this subdivision shall be grounds for disciplinary action.

(5) A licensed professional interior designer who fails to comply with this subdivision may be subject to a civil penalty of not less than one hundred dollars ($100) and not more than one thousand dollars ($1,000) as an intermediate sanction imposed by the board in lieu of revoking the license. A licensed professional interior designer who knowingly and intentionally fails to comply with this subdivision may be subject to a civil penalty of up to twenty thousand dollars ($20,000) as an additional intermediate sanction imposed by the board in lieu of revoking the license.

(b) (1) Within 30 days of payment of all or any portion of a civil action judgment, settlement, or arbitration award described

in subdivision (a) against a licensed professional interior designer in which the amount or value of the judgment, settlement, or arbitration award is five thousand dollars ($5,000) or greater, any insurer providing professional liability insurance to that licensed professional interior designer or licensed professional interior design entity shall report to the board all of the following:

(A) The name of the licensed professional interior designer.

(B) The claim or file number.

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

(D) The amount paid by the insurer.

(E) The identity of the payee.

(2) Within 30 days of payment of all or any portion of any civil action judgment, settlement, or arbitration award described in subdivision (a) against a licensed professional interior designer in which the amount or value of the judgment, settlement, or arbitration award is five thousand dollars ($5,000) or greater, any state or local governmental agency that self-insures the licensed professional interior designer shall report to the board all of the following:

(A) The name of the licensed professional interior designer.

(B) The claim or file number.

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

(D) The amount paid by the insurer.

(E) The identity of the payee.

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

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

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

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a licensed professional interior designer shall not be considered to have violated a confidential settlement agreement or other confidential

agreement by providing a report to the board as required by this section.

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

Article 7. Issuance of Licenses and Revenues

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

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

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

(b) Within 10 days after a judgment by a court of this state that a licensed professional interior designer has committed a crime or is liable for any death or personal or property injury or loss caused by the ~~license holder's~~ *licenseholder's* fraud, deceit, negligence, incompetency, or recklessness in practice, the clerk of the court that rendered the judgment shall report this to the board.

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

next occurs after the effective date of the renewal, unless the license is renewed again.

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

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

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

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

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

(3) The renewal fee for a license shall not exceed____ dollars ($____).

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

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

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

(c) (1) There is hereby established in the State Treasury, the California Professional Interior Designer Fund. Moneys deposited in the fund shall, upon appropriation by the Legislature, be made available to the board to be used in the manner prescribed by law

to defray the expenses of the board in carrying out and enforcing the provisions of this chapter.

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

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

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

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

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

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

5801.1. The procedure for the issuance of a stamp by the council under subdivision (a) of Section 5801, including the examinations recognized and required by the council, shall be subject to the occupational analyses and examination validation required by Section 139 every five to seven years.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

8014. "Design professional" means a person licensed as an architect pursuant to Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 5500) of Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code, licensed as a landscape architect pursuant to Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 5615) of Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code, licensed as a professional interior designer pursuant to Chapter 3.8 (commencing with Section 5700) of Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code, registered as a professional engineer pursuant to Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 6700) of Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code, or licensed as a land surveyor pursuant to Chapter 15 (commencing with Section 8700) of Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code.

~~SEC. 17. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution for certain~~

~~costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district because, in that regard, this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution.~~

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

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

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

**Status/History:** 6/29/26 – Passed Appropriations and ordered to Senate Floor; Amended 8/11/26; 9/14/26 – Enrolled; 9/18/26 – Approved by Governor
**Location:** 9/18/26/ – Approved by the Governor, Chaptered
**Introduced:** 2/13/2026
**Amended**: 4/08/2026; 6/18/2026, 8/11/26
**Board Position:** 3/5/26 – Watch; 5/14/2026 – Oppose Unless Amended, 7/16/26 – Oppose, Support if Amended
**Board Staff Analysis:** 10/9/26

**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.

**6/26/2026 Staff Comment Update**: Staff notified Sponsors and Author of Board’s May 14, 2026, position; worked with sponsors and Senate B.P.&E.D. Committee staff on amendments. Author and Committee accepted Board’s suggested amendments which were approved by Senate B.P.& E.D. Committee. However, additional language was inadvertently added by Leg Counsel in the June 17, 2026, amendment which conflicted with other sections of the Act. Author has stated that they intend to remove the offending language on the Senate floor after Appropriations Committee hearing.

**8/28/26 Staff Comment Update**: Amendments of 8/11/26 satisfactorily address the Board's concerns related to the previous amendment inadvertently including reference to civil engineers.

**UPDATE:**
The Bill was approved by the Governor and chaptered. AB 1933 will become effective January 1, 2027.

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 11, 2026

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 18, 2026

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 8, 2026

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2025–26 REGULAR SESSION

# ASSEMBLY BILL No. 1933

**Introduced by Assembly Member Hoover**

February 13, 2026

An act to amend Sections 8767, 8773, and 8773.2 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to land surveyors.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1933, as amended, 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 licensed civil engineer who presented it with a written statement of the changes necessary to make it conform.

Existing law requires every person authorized to practice land surveying, if a corner or an accessory thereto, as specified, is found, set, reset, or used as control in any survey, to stamp with their seal and file with the county surveyor or engineer of the county where the corner is situated a written record of the establishment or restoration of the corner or accessory, except as specified.

This bill ~~would expand those provisions to also include every licensed civil engineer,~~ would delete the option of filing the survey with the county engineer, and would make conforming changes.

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 delete the authority for the county engineer to examine the corner record, and would require a county surveyor, 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:*

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

8767. If the county surveyor finds that the record of survey complies with the examination in Section 8766, the county surveyor shall endorse a statement on it of their examination and shall present it to the county recorder for filing. Otherwise, the county surveyor shall return it to the licensed land surveyor or licensed civil engineer who presented it, together with a written statement

of the changes necessary to make it conform to the requirements of Section 8766. The licensed land surveyor or licensed civil engineer submitting the record of survey may then make the agreed changes and note those matters which cannot be agreed upon in accordance with the provisions of Section 8768 and shall resubmit the record of survey within 60 days, or within the time as may be mutually agreed upon by the licensed surveyor or licensed engineer and the county surveyor, to the county surveyor for filing pursuant to Section 8768.

SEC. 2. Section 8773 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

8773. (a) Except as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 8773.4, a person authorized to practice land surveying in this state ~~or a person licensed to practice as a civil engineer in this state~~ shall complete, sign, stamp with their seal, and file with the county surveyor of the county where the corners are situated, a written record of corner establishment or restoration to be known as a "corner record" for every corner established by the Survey of the Public Lands of the United States, except "lost corners," as defined by the Manual of Surveying Instructions (2009), published by the federal Bureau of Land Management and every accessory to such corner which is found, set, reset, or used as control in any survey by such authorized person.

(b) After the establishment of a lost corner, as defined by the Manual of Surveying Instructions (2009), published by the federal Bureau of Land Management a record of survey shall be filed as set forth in Section 8764.

(c) Any person authorized to practice land surveying in this state ~~or any person licensed to practice as a civil engineer in this state~~ may file such corner record for any property corners, property controlling corners, reference monuments, or accessories to a property corner.

SEC. 3. Section 8773.2 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

8773.2. (a) A "corner record" submitted to the county surveyor shall be examined by the county surveyor for compliance with subdivision (d) of Section 8765 and Sections 8772, 8773, 8773.1, and 8773.4, endorsed with a statement of their examination, and filed with the county surveyor or returned to the submitting party within 20 working days after receipt.

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

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

(d) The corner record filed with the county surveyor of any county shall be securely fastened by the county surveyor into a suitable book provided for that purpose.

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

(f) If the preparer of the corner record provides a postage-paid, self-addressed envelope or postcard with the filing of the corner record, the county surveyor shall return the postage-paid, self-addressed envelope or postcard to the preparer of the corner record with the filing data within 20 days of final filing. For the

purposes of this subdivision, "filing data" includes the date, book or volume, and the page at which the corner record is filed by the county surveyor. This subdivision shall not apply to a county surveyor's office that maintains an electronic database of filed corner records that is accessible to the public by reference to the preparer's license number.

SEC. 4. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because a local agency or school district has the authority to levy service charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for the program or level of service mandated by this act, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code.

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**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:** 10/9/26

**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.

**6/26/26 – Update**: Hearing canceled at the request of Author and appears to be dead. However, staff will continue to monitor.

**UPDATE:** No further action was taken by the deadline of August 31, 2026, so the bill could not move forward.

# 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:*

SECTION 1. Section 7110 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

7110. *(a)* Willful or deliberate disregard and violation of the building laws of the state, or of any political subdivision thereof,

or of any of the following references to or provisions of law, constitutes a cause for disciplinary action against a licensee:

~~(a)~~

*(1)* Section 8550 or 8556.

~~(b)~~

*(2)* Sections 1689.5 to 1689.15, inclusive, of the Civil Code.

~~(c)~~

*(3)* The safety laws or labor laws or compensation insurance laws or Unemployment Insurance Code of the state.

~~(d)~~

*(4)* The Subletting and Subcontracting Fair Practices Act (Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 4100) of Part 1 of Division 2 of the Public Contract Code).

~~(e)~~

*(5)* Any provision of the Health and Safety Code or Water Code, relating to the digging, boring, or drilling of water wells.

~~(f)~~

*(6)* Any provision of Article 2 (commencing with Section 4216) of Chapter 3.1 of Division 5 of Title 1 of the Government Code.

~~(g)~~

*(7)* Section 374.3 of the Penal Code or any substantially similar law or ordinance that is promulgated by a local government agency as defined in Section 82041 of the Government Code.

~~(h)~~

*(8)* Any state or local law relating to the issuance of building permits.

*(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), a licensee who engages in the use of technologies, tools, and equipment in the course of performing construction work pursuant to this chapter shall not be subject to a cause for disciplinary action against themselves.*

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**AB 2435 (Chen-D)**
**Land surveyors: practice without authorization: penalties**

**Status/History:** Introduced 2/20/26, Amended 3/16/26, 4/15/26, 6/10/26
Passed Assembly and referred to Senate Committees on Business, Professions, and Economic Development Committee and Committee on Public Safety.
**Location:** Senate Business, Professions, and Economic Development Committee
**Introduced:** 2/20/2026
**Board Position:** 7/16/26 - Support
**Board Staff Analysis:** 10/9/26

**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.

**6/24/2026 Staff Update:** This bill was amended 6/10/2026 to include language for all three of the Board's Acts as suggested by Board staff in communication with the Author's Office. After these amendments, the Author chose to cancel the hearing scheduled before the Senate Business, Professions, and Economic Development Committee due to opposition from Laborer associations and despite the Committee Chair's agreement to move forward with the hearing.

**UPDATE:**
Since the bill was not acted on by the deadline of August 31, 2026, it cannot move forward.

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 10, 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~~ *add Sections 6787.5, 7872.5, and 8792.5 to* the Business and Professions Code, relating to ~~professions.~~ *professions, and making an appropriation therefor.*

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2435, as amended, Chen. ~~Land surveyors: practice without authorization: penalties.~~ *Professional engineering, geology, geophysics, and land surveying: practice without a license: administrative penalties.*

*Existing law establishes the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists to license and regulate professional engineers under the Professional Engineers Act, to license and regulate land surveyors under the Professional Land Surveyors' Act, and to license and regulate geologists and geophysicists under the Geologist and Geophysicist Act. Existing law makes it a misdemeanor to practice or to offer to practice civil, electrical, or mechanical engineering, geology, geophysics, or land surveying without being licensed under those acts, unless the person is exempt from licensure. Existing law requires fees and civil penalties received pursuant to the Professional Engineers Act, the Professional Land Surveyors' Act, and the Geologist and Geophysicist Act to be deposited in the Professional Engineer's, Land*

*Surveyor's, and Geologist's Fund, and continuously appropriates those funds to the board for purposes of those acts.*

*This bill would authorize the executive officer of the board to issue a citation to a person or entity that subjects the person or entity to an administrative fine of not less than $500 and no more than $20,000 for each violation of practicing or offering to practice civil engineering, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, geology, geophysics, or land surveying without a license unless the person or entity is otherwise authorized by law. By authorizing additional penalties to be deposited into a continuously appropriated fund, this bill would make an appropriation.*

~~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.~~

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

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

*SECTION 1. Section 6787.5 is added to the Business and Professions Code, to read:*

*6787.5. Notwithstanding paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Section 125.9 and Section 148, the executive officer may issue a citation to a person or entity, and that person or entity shall be subject to an administrative fine of not less than five hundred dollars ($500) and not more than twenty thousand dollars ($20,000) for each violation of practicing or offering to practice civil, electrical, or mechanical engineering without a license issued by the board pursuant to this chapter unless the person or entity is otherwise authorized by law. The maximum fine for unlicensed activity is separate from and not inclusive of fines for other violations.*

*SEC. 2. Section 7872.5 is added to the Business and Professions Code, to read:*

*7872.5. Notwithstanding paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Section 125.9 and Section 148, the executive officer may issue a citation to a person or entity, and that person or entity shall be subject to an administrative fine of not less than five hundred dollars ($500) and not more than twenty thousand dollars ($20,000) for each violation of practicing or offering to practice geology or geophysics without a license issued by the board pursuant to this chapter unless the person or entity is otherwise authorized by law. The maximum fine for unlicensed activity is separate from and not inclusive of fines for other violations.*

*SEC. 3. Section 8792.5 is added to the Business and Professions Code, to read:*

*8792.5. Notwithstanding paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Section 125.9 and Section 148, the executive officer may issue a citation to a person or entity, and that person or entity shall be subject to an administrative fine of not less than five hundred dollars ($500) and not more than twenty thousand dollars ($20,000) for each violation of practicing or offering to practice land surveying without a license issued by the board pursuant to this chapter unless the person or entity is otherwise authorized by law. The maximum fine for unlicensed activity is separate from and not inclusive of fines for other violations.*

~~SECTION 1. Section 8792 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:~~

~~8792. A person who does any of the following is guilty of a misdemeanor:~~

~~(a) Unless the person is exempt from licensure under this chapter, practices, or offers to practice, land surveying in this state without legal authorization. A violation of this subdivision is subject to the following penalties:~~

~~(1) A first conviction is punishable by a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars ($10,000) or by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding six months, or by both that fine and imprisonment.~~

~~(2) A second conviction is punishable by a fine not exceeding fifteen thousand dollars ($15,000) or by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding six months, or by both that fine and imprisonment.~~

~~(3) A third or subsequent conviction is punishable by a fine not less than twenty thousand dollars ($20,000) or by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding six months, or by both that fine and imprisonment.~~

~~(b) Presents as their own the certificate of a land surveyor-in-training or the license of a professional land surveyor unless they are the person named on the certificate or the license.~~

~~(c) Attempts to file as their own any record of survey under the license of a professional land surveyor.~~

~~(d) Gives false evidence of any kind to the board, or to any board member, in obtaining a certificate or a license.~~

~~(e) Impersonates or uses the seal, signature, or license number of a professional land surveyor or who uses a false license number.~~

~~(f) Impersonates or uses the certificate number of a land surveyor-in-training or who uses a false certificate.~~

~~(g) Uses an expired, suspended, surrendered, or revoked certificate or license.~~

~~(h) Represents themselves as, or uses the title of, professional land surveyor, or any other title whereby that person could be considered as practicing or offering to practice land surveying, unless the person is correspondingly qualified by licensure as a land surveyor under this chapter.~~

~~(i) Uses the title, or any combination of that title, of "professional land surveyor," "licensed land surveyor," "land surveyor," or the titles specified in Sections 8751 and 8775, or "land surveyor-in-training," or who makes use of any abbreviation of that title that might lead to the belief that the person is a licensed land surveyor or holds a certificate as a land surveyor-in-training, without being licensed or certified as required by this chapter.~~

~~(j) Unless appropriately licensed, manages, or conducts as manager, proprietor, or agent, any place of business from which land surveying work is solicited, performed, or practiced, except as authorized pursuant to Section 6731.2.~~

~~(k) Violates any provision of this chapter.~~

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**SB 1011 (McNerney-D)**
**Energy: Utility Infrastructure AI Safety, Oversight, and Workforce Protection Act**

**Status/History:** Amended 5/18/26 – ordered to inactive file on request of Author 5/28/26
**Location:** Senate
**Introduced:** 2/10/2026
**Board Position:** 3/5/26 - Watch
**Board Staff Analysis:** 10/9/26

**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.

**6/25/26 – Staff Comment Update:** Since the bill has been ordered inactive at the request of the Author, no further action is required.
**9/1/26** – Staff Comment Update: There was no further action on the bill by the deadline of August 31, 2026.

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 18, 2026

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 22, 2026

# SENATE BILL No. 1011

**Introduced by Senator McNerney**

February 10, 2026

An act to add Chapter ~~11~~ *12* (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 with regulatory jurisdiction over public utilities, including electrical corporations and gas 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.

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~~ *and* 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:*

SECTION 1. This act shall be known, and may be cited, as the Utility Infrastructure AI Safety, Oversight, and Workforce Protection Act.

SEC. 2. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(1) The electrical and gas infrastructure of the state is vital to public safety, economic stability, and environmental sustainability.

(2) The increasing use of artificial intelligence models within utility operations, including mapping, design, configuration, control, maintenance, and oversight, introduces new risks to reliability, safety, asset integrity, system-of-record accuracy, and workforce continuity.

(3) 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.

(4) Workers in utility operations should have appropriate notice and training opportunities when technological change affects their roles.

(b) In enacting this act, it is the intent of the Legislature to establish consistent statewide standards for the safe, transparent, auditable, and equitable implementation of artificial intelligence models in utility infrastructure operations.

~~SEC. 3. Chapter 11 (commencing with Section 8510) is added to Division 4.1 of the Public Utilities Code, to read:~~

*SEC. 3. Chapter 12 (commencing with Section 8510) is added to Division 4.1 of the Public Utilities Code, to read:*

CHAPTER ~~11.~~*12.* ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE MODELS IN UTILITY INFRASTRUCTURE

8510. (a) For purposes of this chapter,

(b) "Artificial intelligence model" means an engineered or machine-based system that varies in its level of autonomy and that can, for explicit or implicit objectives, infer from the input it receives how to generate outputs that can influence physical or virtual environments.

(c) "Electrical corporation" has the same meaning as defined in Section 218.

(d) "Gas corporation" has the same meaning as defined in Section 222.

(e) "Local publicly owned electric utility" has the same meaning as defined in Section 224.3.

8511. (a) As part of a new or existing proceeding, the commission shall, on or before January 1, 2028, adopt standards for an electrical corporation's or gas corporation's use of artificial intelligence models. The standards adopted by the commission shall do at least all of the following:

(1) Establish disclosure requirements for an electrical corporation or gas corporation to specify the types of artificial intelligence models it uses and how those models are used by the electrical corporation or gas corporation.

(2) Require an electrical corporation or gas corporation to identify the employee job classifications impacted by any planned implementation of an artificial intelligence model and efforts taken to ensure effective education, training, and retention for impacted employees.

(3) Identify steps an electrical corporation or gas corporation shall take to ensure that artificial intelligence models do not impact utility safety, affordability, and reliability.

(4) Establish requirements for human review and approval for the deployment and use of artificial intelligence models to ensure that electrical and gas services are safe, affordable, and reliable, including requirements for the placement of human review in the deployment of artificial intelligence models.

(5) Ensure that deployment of artificial intelligence models ~~do~~ *does* not displace utility employees needed for the safe, affordable, and reliable provision of electrical and gas services. For any job classification identified as responsible for human review and approval of an artificial intelligence model, ~~the electrical corporation or gas corporation shall demonstrate that its workforce plan maintains sufficient personnel in that job classification to ensure that human review and approval processes are not rendered nominal by understaffing.~~ *the electrical corporation or gas corporation shall maintain staffing levels sufficient to support meaningful human review and approval processes, as determined by the commission.*

~~(6) Establish requirements for human review and approval of any artificial intelligence model that does any of the following:~~

~~(A) Makes or directly implements operational decisions affecting the mapping, design, configuration, operation, maintenance, or oversight of electrical or gas infrastructure without a mandatory human approval step integrated into the operational workflow before implementation.~~

~~(B) Generates recommendations that the electrical corporation or gas corporation has configured to be automatically implemented without case-by-case human review.~~

~~(C) Performs any act that could directly and foreseeably result in physical harm to a person or a service interruption or outage, or impact on public safety.~~

~~(b) The requirements for human review and approval of artificial intelligence models in subdivision (a) shall ensure staff conducting the review and approval meet all of the following criteria:~~

~~(1) Have relevant expertise in the operational area affected by the artificial intelligence model.~~

~~(2) Have been provided sufficient information, time, and access to data to meaningfully evaluate the artificial intelligence model's output or recommendations.~~

~~(3) Retain unimpeded authority to reject, modify, or defer implementation of the artificial intelligence model without adverse consequence to the reviewer.~~

~~(4) Have not been subject to a workflow design, performance metric, or operational pressure that renders rejection of the system output functionally impractical.~~

*(6) Identify and establish requirements for human review and approval of any use of artificial intelligence that is high risk, safety sensitive, or would have a material operational impact.*

~~(c)~~

*(b)* The commission may prohibit an electrical corporation's 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.

~~(d)~~

*(c)* The commission shall direct an electrical corporation or gas corporation to file a plan that demonstrates the corporation's compliance with the standards adopted pursuant to this section. The commission may request records as it deems necessary to verify compliance with the standards adopted pursuant to this section.

~~(e)~~

*(d)* The commission shall ensure that a plan filed by an electrical corporation pursuant to subdivision ~~(d)~~ *(c)* may be reviewed by the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety to ensure that any artificial intelligence model used for wildfire mitigation is consistent with the electrical corporation's wildfire mitigation plan developed pursuant to Section 8386.

~~(f)~~

*(e)* The commission shall ensure that impacted bargaining units are consulted in the development of plans filed pursuant to subdivision ~~(d).~~ *(c).*

~~(g)~~

*(f)* (1) Each community choice aggregator established pursuant to Section 366.2 shall adopt a policy regarding its use of an artificial intelligence model.

(2) A policy adopted pursuant to this subdivision shall be consistent with the standards adopted by the commission pursuant to subdivision (a).

~~(h)~~

*(g)* (1) Each local publicly owned electric utility shall adopt a policy regarding ~~the~~ its use of an artificial intelligence model.

(2) A policy adopted pursuant to this subdivision shall be consistent with the standards adopted by the commission pursuant subdivision (a).

8515. (a) This chapter establishes minimum safety and governance standards of artificial intelligence models.

(b) This chapter does not limit, waive, or alter any rights, remedies, or obligations under state or federal law, including the National Labor Relations Act (29 U.S.C. Sec. 151 et seq.), the Meyers-Milias-Brown Act (Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 3500) of Division 4 of Title 1 of the Government Code), the Ralph C. Dills Act (Chapter 10.3 (commencing with Section 3512) of Division 4 of Title 1 of the Government Code), or any collective bargaining agreement, with respect to technological change, staffing, workload, training, or working conditions.

8519. The provisions of this chapter are severable. If any provision of this chapter or its application is held invalid, that invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application.

SEC. 4. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because a local agency or school district has the authority to levy service charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for the program or level of service mandated by this act or because costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution.

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**SB 1248 (Cabaldon-D)**
**State agencies: automated decision systems**

**Status/History:** 5/4/26 – Held in Suspense File
**Location:** 4/21/26 – Senate Committee on Appropriations
**Introduced:** 2/19/2026
**Board Position:** 3/5/26 - Watch
**Board Staff Analysis:** 10/9/26

**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.

**6/25/26 Staff Update:** Since the bill has been placed on suspense file, no further action is needed at this time.
**9/1/26 Staff Update**: There was no action taken on the bill by the deadline of August 31, 2026.

**SENATE BILL** **No. 1248**

**Introduced by Senator Cabaldon**

February 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.

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.

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

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

SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(a) California's residents and businesses increasingly conduct transactions at unprecedented speeds, with private sector services such as loan approvals, insurance applications, and consumer purchases now processed in minutes or seconds through automated systems. Government services have not kept pace with these technological advances, creating a disconnect between public expectations and the reality of government service delivery.

(b) Delays in processing professional license applications, credential verifications, and occupational certifications impose significant hardships on California residents. Nurses, teachers, contractors, cosmetologists, and other professionals face prolonged delays in receiving licenses necessary to begin or continue working, which creates economic hardship and workforce shortages. Businesses cannot operate while waiting for required professional credentials, and California's economy suffers when qualified individuals are prevented from contributing their skills due to administrative backlogs.

(c) Automatic decisionmaking systems, when properly designed with appropriate safeguards, transparency measures, and human oversight mechanisms, have the potential to dramatically reduce processing times for routine governmental decisions while maintaining accuracy and fairness. These systems can enable state agencies to redirect limited staff resources from repetitive administrative tasks to complex cases requiring human judgment and to providing enhanced customer service.

(d) The deployment of automated decisionmaking technology in government services must be accompanied by robust protections to ensure equity, prevent algorithmic bias, protect individual privacy, and preserve meaningful human review and appeal rights. The benefits of speed and efficiency must not come at the expense of due process, equal protection, or the fundamental principle that government remains accountable to the people it serves.

(e) Authorizing state agencies to utilize automatic decisionmaking systems for professional licensing, occupational credentialing, and benefits determination in state-administered programs, subject to appropriate standards and oversight, will modernize California's public service infrastructure, reduce administrative burdens on both government and residents, and ensure that government responsiveness reflects the technological capabilities and expectations of the twenty-first century.

(f) California operates over 40 professional licensing boards, bureaus, and programs under the Department of Consumer Affairs, regulating more than 200 occupations and professions. These entities process hundreds of thousands of license applications, renewals, and verifications annually. Automatic decisionmaking systems provide state agencies the technological means to meet statutory processing timelines while ensuring consistent and fair application of licensing criteria and professional standards.

SEC. 2. Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 12898) is added to Part 2.5 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, to read:

## Chapter 6. Automated Decision Systems

12898. For purposes of this chapter, the following definitions apply:

(a) "Artificial intelligence" means an engineered or machine-based system that varies in its level of autonomy and that can, for explicit or implicit objectives, infer from the input it receives how to generate outputs that can influence physical or virtual environments.

(b) "Automated decision system" means a computational process derived from machine learning, statistical modeling, data analytics, or artificial intelligence that issues simplified output, including a score, classification, or recommendation, that is used to assist or replace human discretionary decisionmaking and materially impacts natural persons. "Automated decision system" does not include a spam email filter, firewall, antivirus software, identity and access management tools, calculator, database, dataset, or other compilation of data.

(c) "Legally protected information" means information that a person is prohibited from disclosing under federal or state law, including provisions of the Evidence Code relating to privilege, or that would result in a violation of a legal duty of confidentiality.

(d) "State agency" has the same meaning as in Section 11000.

(e) "Personally identifiable information" means an individual's residential address, telephone number, social security number, driver's license number, state identification card number, passport number, license plate number, vehicle registration information for a motor vehicle owned or leased by the individual, and information regarding an individual's precise geolocation, as defined in Section 1798.140 of the Civil Code.

(f) "Protected health information" has the same meaning as defined in Section 160.103 of Title 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

(g) "Services" means both of the following:

(1) Services, benefits, or assistance, whether provided in cash or in kind, that a state agency provides or administers, including, but not limited to, social services, linkages to programs administered by the federal Social Security Administration, vocational and education-related services, and employment assistance.

(2) Issuance, renewal, denial, or suspension of a professional license or occupational credential.

12898.1. If a state agency uses an automated decision system for services, not including competitive determinations, the state agency shall comply with all of the following:

(a) The state agency may use an automated decision system to inform its decisionmaking process. The state agency shall not substitute the outputs of an automated decision system for human judgment.

(b) When an automated decision system is used to assist in a decisionmaking process, the system shall be only one of the factors a user considers in reaching a decision. The state agency may use an automated decision system to ascertain whether a services application or submission meets minimum eligibility thresholds as predetermined by the state agency.

(c) The state agency shall not use an output from an automated decision system as the sole basis for an adverse service determination affecting a natural person, such as denial of a benefit or license, except as expressly authorized by federal or state law.

(d) The state agency shall require that any output of an automated decision system that suggests noneligibility or other adverse action be reviewed by a human before any adverse action is taken.

(e) A state agency's user shall not represent work generated solely by an automated decision system as the user's own original work.

(f) When the use of an automated decision system is material to a decision, the state agency shall provide a means, consistent with applicable law, to document or disclose that the system was used in the decisionmaking process.

(g) The state agency shall verify the accuracy of an automated decision system's outputs, and shall promote nondiscrimination in its use of an automated decision system, by doing all of the following:

(1) Ensure content, recommendations, or other outputs generated by an automated decision system that may materially affect service levels are reviewed and verified by an employee of the state agency, or by another authorized person, for accuracy before being relied upon.

(2) Monitor and periodically evaluate the use of automated decision systems to reduce the risk that outputs contain or perpetuate bias, including bias based on race, color, religion, sex,

gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, ancestry, age, disability, medical condition, genetic information, immigration or citizenship status, or any other characteristic protected by federal or state law.

(3) Require that an application or submission contain all required fields, attachments, or information in the required format.

(h) The state agency shall safeguard personally identifiable information, protected health information, or other legally protected information by prohibiting a user of the automated decisions system from inputting, uploading, or otherwise disclosing the information to an automated decision system, except where necessary for services administration or delivery, as authorized by law and subject to appropriate safeguards. For third-party systems, a state agency shall employ safeguards that may include access controls and appropriate security standards.

(i) The state agency's director or designee shall provide for an initial and subsequent periodic quality control review of the outputs of the automated decision system, or a statistically valid represented sample thereof to assure acceptable accuracy.

12898.2 The Government Operations Agency, in collaboration with any other state entity the agency deems appropriate, may develop, adopt, and make publicly available guidance for a state agency's use of automated decision systems consistent with this chapter. Before issuing the guidance, the agency shall notify the Joint Legislative Budget Committee of its decision to issue guidance.

12898.3 The Government Operations Agency may provide technical assistance to state agencies to comply with this chapter.

O

**X. Rulemaking**

A. Pending Rulemaking Efforts – Status Report

B. Consideration of Rulemaking Proposal

1. Discussion to Initiate Rulemaking to Amend California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 5, Section 405, and Division 29, Section 3004, Delegation of Certain Functions **(Possible Action)**

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## Rulemaking Status Report

1. **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).
  - Board approved to initiate and adopt text for section 100 at the July 2026 Board Meeting.
  - Submitted for initial review by DCA Legal on March 10, 2026.

2. **Professional Geologist Educational and Experience Requirements – Section 100 (16 CCR section 3022)**

- Office of Administrative Law (OAL) approved the Board's regulation and filed the action with the Secretary of State on September 15, 2026.
  - Rulemaking file was submitted to Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for final review and approval on August 5, 2026.
  - Board approved to initiate and adopt text for section 100 at the July 2026 Board Meeting.
  - 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 16, 2026.

3. **Use Gender-Neutral Language – Section 100 (16 CCR 400-476 and 3000-3067)**

- Board staff working with DCA Legal to prepare documents for submission to Office of Administrative Law (OAL) on August 6, 2026.
  - Board directed staff to pursue rulemaking proposal on March 5, 2026.

4. **Definitions of Negligence and Incompetence and Responsible Charge Criteria for Professional Geologists and Professional Geophysicists (16 CCR sections 3003 and 3003.1)**

- Submitted for initial (pre-notice) review by DCA Legal on August 17, 2026.
  - Board directed staff to pursue rulemaking proposal on September 6, 2018.

5. **Delegation of Certain Functions (16 CCR sections 405 and 3004)**

- Board staff working with DCA Legal to prepare documents for submission to Office of Administrative Law (OAL).
  - Board directed staff to pursue rulemaking proposal on September 10, 2026.

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.

**Discussion to Initiate Rulemaking to Amend California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 5, Section 405, and Division 29, Section 3004, Delegation of Certain Functions**

The Board proposes amending Title 16, California Code of Regulations (CCR) sections 405(e) and 3004(e) through the regular formal rulemaking process to 1) delegate to and confer upon the executive officer or their designee the power to make changes to the Board's regulations that are without regulatory effect pursuant to Title 1, CCR section 100, and 2) make nonsubstantive grammatical changes.

Title 1, CCR section 100 creates an exception to the regular formal rulemaking requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) for proposed regulatory changes that do not materially alter any requirement, right, responsibility, condition, prescription, or other regulatory element of any CCR provision. Section 100 provides a non-exhaustive list of regulatory changes that are without regulatory effect, i.e. nonsubstantive changes, which includes, among others: renumbering, reordering, or relocating a regulatory provision; revising structure, syntax, cross-reference, grammar, or punctuation; and updating the authority and reference citations for regulations (such as when the number of the cited statutes or regulations changes).

This proposal will enhance the effectiveness of the Board's operations. Delegating to the executive officer the authority to make changes without regulatory effect will shorten the timeframe for initiation of Section 100 changes, thereby updating sections of the Board's regulations in a more timely and efficient manner. In addition, delegating this power to the executive officer will free up the Board to handle other more pressing substantive policy issues during Board Meetings. (Note: Proposed regulatory changes that are substantive would still be handled through the regular formal rulemaking process, including being placed on a Board agenda, and discussed and acted upon at a publicly noticed Board meeting.)

Staff recommends that the Board vote to initiate the rulemaking and approve the proposed text included in the meeting materials.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:**

Initiate a rulemaking to amend California Code of Regulations, Title 16, sections 405 and 3004 [either "as proposed" or "consistent with the Board's discussion"]. Direct staff to submit the text to the Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs and the Business and Consumer Services Agency for review, and authorize the executive officer to take all steps necessary to initiate the rulemaking process, make any technical or nonsubstantive changes to the package, and set the matter for hearing, if requested. If, during the 45-day comment period, the Board does not receive any comments providing objections or adverse recommendations specifically directed at the proposed action or to the procedures followed by the Board in proposing or adopting the action, and no

hearing is requested, authorize the executive officer to take all steps necessary to complete the rulemaking and adopt the proposed regulations at sections 405 and 3004.

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

# TITLE 16. Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists

## PROPOSED REGULATORY LANGUAGE

### Delegation of Authority to Make Changes Without Regulatory Effect

| | |
|---|---|
| **Legend:** | Added text is indicated with an underline.<br>Deleted text is indicated by ~~strikeout~~.<br>Omitted text is indicated by (* * * *) |

**Amend section 405 of Article 1 of Division 5 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations to read as follows:**

**§ 405. Delegation of Certain Functions.**

* * * *

(e) The power and discretion conferred by law upon the Board to receive and file accusations; issue notices of hearing, statements to respondent, and statements of issues; receive and file notices of defense; determine the time and place of hearings under Section 11508 of the Government Code; issue subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum, set and calendar cases for hearing and perform other functions necessary to the businesslike dispatch of the business of the Board in connection with proceedings under the provisions of Sections 11400 through 11529 of the Government Code, prior to the hearing of such proceedings; ~~and the~~ certify~~ication~~ and deliver~~y~~ or mail~~ing of~~ copies of decisions under Section 11518 of said Code; and make changes to its regulations without regulatory effect pursuant to Title 1, California Code of Regulations Section 100 are hereby delegated to and conferred upon the executive officer, or to their designee.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 6716 and 8710, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Sections 6714 and 8707, Business and Professions Code; and Sections 11400-11529 and 18572, Government Code.

**Amend section 3004 of Article 1 of Division 29 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations to read as follows:**

**§ 3004. Delegation of Certain Functions.**

* * * *

(e) The power and discretion conferred by law upon the board to receive and file accusations; issue notices of hearings, statements to respondent and statements of

issues; receive and file notices of defense; determine the time and place of hearings under Section 11508 of the Government Code, issue subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum, set and calendar cases for hearing and perform other functions necessary to the businesslike dispatch of the business of the board in connection with proceedings under the provisions of Section 11500 through 11528 of the Government Code prior to the hearing of such proceeding; ~~and the~~ certify~~ication~~ and delivery~~y~~ or mail~~ing of~~ copies of decisions under Section 11518 of said code; and make changes to its regulations without regulatory effect pursuant to Title 1, California Code of Regulations Section 100 are hereby delegated to and conferred upon the executive officer, or~~, in their absence from the office of the board,~~ to their designee.

Note: Authority cited: Section 7818, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Section 7818, Business and Professions Code.

**XI. Executive Officer's Report**

A. Personnel
B. ABET
C. Update on Launch of License Renewal Assessment
D. Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG)
    1. Report from Fall Council of Examiners (COE) Workshop and Annual Meeting October 27-31, 2026
E. National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES)
    1. Report from Annual Meeting August 17-21, 2026 **(Possible Action)**
F. 2027 Proposed Board Meeting Schedule **(Possible Action)**
G. Update on Outreach Efforts

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# 2027 Tentative Board Meeting Calendar

## JANUARY

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| 31 | | | | | | |

## FEBRUARY

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| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | | | | | | |

## MARCH

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| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
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## APRIL

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## MAY

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| 30 | | | | | | |

## JUNE

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## JULY

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## AUGUST

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| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

## SEPTEMBER

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## OCTOBER

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| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | | | | | | |

## NOVEMBER

| S | M | T | W | Th | F | S |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 78 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | |

## DECEMBER

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| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |

## STATE HOLIDAYS

**1/1** New Year's Day
**1/18** MLK Jr. Day
**2/15** President's Day
**3/31** Cesar Chavez Day
**5/31** Memorial Day
**7/4** Independence Day
**9/6** Labor Day
**11/11** Veteran's Day
**11/25-26** Thanksgiving
**12/25** Christmas

## NCEES AND ASBOG EVENTS

| | |
|---|---|
| **4/22-24** | NCEES All Zone Meeting – Omaha, NE |
| **8/17-8/20** | NCEES Annual Meeting – Verona, NY |
| **10/25-30** | ASBOG Annual Meeting – Biloxi, MS |

* **NOTE**: Dates in yellow are proposed Board meeting dates.

# QUARTERLY OUTREACH REPORT (Q1)

## SOCIAL MEDIA: July, August, and September 2026

| TOP FACEBOOK POSTS | DATE | VIEWS |
|---|---|---|
| National Professional Engineers Day | Aug 5 | 307 |
| Technical Issue with Connect Platform Announced | July 24 | 246 |
| Meeting Materials for July 16 Board Meeting Posted | July 10 | 121 |
| Notice & Agenda for July 16 Board Meeting Posted | July 3 | 118 |
| Meeting Materials for Sept 10 Board Meeting Posted | Sept 4 | 95 |

| TOP TWEETS | DATE | VIEWS |
|---|---|---|
| National Professional Engineers Day | Aug 5 | 284 |
| Meeting Materials for July 16 Board Meeting Posted | July 10 | 77 |
| Notice & Agenda for Sept 10 Board Meeting Posted | Aug 28 | 71 |
| Technical Issue with Connect Platform Announced | July 24 | 61 |
| Meeting Materials for Sept 10 Board Meeting Posted | Sept 4 | 55 |

| Top 5 LinkedIn Impressions | DATE | IMPRESSIONS |
|---|---|---|
| Technical Issue with Connect Platform Announced | July 24 | 718 |
| National Professional Engineers Day | Aug 5 | 691 |
| Notice & Agenda for Sept 10 Board Meeting Posted | Aug 28 | 624 |
| Notice & Agenda for July 16 Board Meeting Posted | July 3 | 492 |
| Meeting Materials for Sept 10 Board Meeting Posted | Sept 4 | 443 |

| WEB PAGE VIEWS | VIEWS |
|---|---|
| License Lookup | 90,838 |
| Board Home Page | 46,043 |
| Applicants Information | 29,915 |
| PE License Renewal | 21,136 |
| PE Licensee Information | 16,641 |

## OUTREACH EVENTS: July - September 2026

*All Events "In-Person" Unless Noted "Virtual"*

**KEY:**
APWA: American Public Works Assn.
ASCE: American Society of Civil Engineers
CLSA: CA Land Surveyors Assn.
YMF: Young Members Forum

| July – September 2026 | |
|---|---|
| July 7 | Sacramento CLSA Land Survey Review, virtual, D. Sweeney, PLS |
| July 30 | APWA Young Professionals Monterey Bay Chapter Lunch & Learn: "Professional Licensing in California" virtual, N. King, PE |
| | |
| Aug 20 | County Engineers Assn. of California (CEAC), Surveyor Committee Mtg., D. Sweeney, PLS |
| Sept 2 | ASCE YMF San Francisco Chapter: "Professional Licensing in California", N. King, PE |
| Sept 14 | Cal Poly, SLO, Environmental Engineering Senior Design: "Professional Licensing in California", N. King, PE |
| Sept 14 | ASCE Professionals SLO, Chapter: "Professional Licensing in California: PE Renewal Assessment and Enforcement Issues" in-person & virtual, N. King, PE |
| Sept 14 | Cal Poly, SLO, Civil Engineering Senior Design: "Professional Licensing in California" N. King, PE |
| Sep 19 | Cal Poly, SLO, "Pathway to the GIT and PG licensure", J. Goodwin, PG, CE |
| Sep 22 | ASCE YMF Redwood Empire Chapter: "PE Licensing and Renewal Assessment" virtual, N. King, PE |
| Sept 23 | Jacobs Career Network: "PE Licensing & Renewal Assessment", N. King, PE & B. Locken, PE |
| Sept 23 | CSU, Northridge, "Pathway to the GIT and PG licensure", J. Goodwin, PG, CEG |
| Sept 27-29 | ABET University Evaluation with meetings with faculty and staff discussions about licensure. B. Locken, PE |
| Sept 29 | Stanford Univ. "Pathway to the GIT and PG licensure", J. Goodwin, PG, CEG |

## XII. President's Report/Board Member Activities

**XIII. Approval of Meeting Minutes (Possible Action)**

A. Approval of September 10, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes

# MINUTES OF THE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, LAND SURVEYORS, AND GEOLOGISTS

Department of Transportation
4050 Taylor Street, Gallegos Room
San Diego, CA 92110

Thursday, September 10, 2026

**Board Members Present:** President Frank Ruffino; Vice-President Desirea Haggard; Fel Amistad; Rossana D'Antonio; Michael Hartley; Fermin Villegas; Cliff Waldeck; and Christina Wong

**Board Members Absent:** Alireza Asgari, Betsy Mathieson, Guillermo Martinez, Wilfredo Sanchez

**Board Staff Present:** Ric Moore (Executive Officer); Tiffany Criswell (Assistant Executive Officer); Dawn Hall (Administrative Manager); Brook Grabowski (Enforcement Manager)

**I. Roll Call to Establish a Quorum**

President Ruffino called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and a quorum was established.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

Dr. Fel Amistad led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda**

During Public Comment, Mr. Michael Hank, Caltrans District 11 Division Chief, welcomed the Board and expressed gratitude and support. President Ruffino expressed appreciation for Caltrans hospitality in hosting the meeting.

**IV. Hearing on the Petition for Reinstatement of Surrendered License of Michael Sanchez**

This hearing was held on Thursday, September 10, 2026.

The Board met in Closed Session immediately following the Hearing on the Petition for Reinstatement of Surrendered License to decide that matter, pursuant to Government Code Section 11126(c)(3).

**V. 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. Hossein Eftekhari v. Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists, Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 25WM000236
   2. Shahrokh Esmaily-Radvar vs. Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists, Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 25STCP02175 / Second Appellate District, Case No. B356005
   3. James MacGregor Renfrew, Jr. vs. Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists, Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 25STCP02233 / Second Appellate District, Case No. B355777

## VI. Administration

A. Fiscal Year 2025/26 Budget Report
Ms. Hall reported the final 2025/26 report is not included in the materials, however she noted that although overall revenue was higher than projected, renewal revenues did not meet FM 1 projections.

B. Fiscal Year 2026/27 Budget Report
Ms. Hall reported the Fund Condition included in the Board materials for 2026/27 reflects expenses approved in the budget, but the revenues have not been updated. Fiscal year 2026/27 and 2027/28 revenues and expenses will be updated on the fund condition for the November 2026 Board meeting upon receipt/confirmation of the Board's 2025/26 FM13 report.

## VII. Enforcement

A. Enforcement Statistical Reports
   1. Fiscal Year 2026/27 Update
   Ms. Grabowski presented the current Enforcement statistics, noting the report now includes complaints received. Case volumes are still trending up and staff continue to make concentrated efforts to close older cases. Mr. Moore noted the Board received 130 complaints within the first two months of the fiscal year. Ms. Criswell noted that reports have always included cases which were actually investigated but the inclusion of cases received now reflects intake workload through the overall complaint submittal process.

   During Public Comment, Mr. Rob McMillan representing the California Land Surveyors Association, asked how the volume of complaints received compares to a typical year. Ms. Grabowski clarified that complaints received was not previously reported so there are no equivalent statistics to compare to.

## VIII. Exams/Licensing

A. Examination/Licensing Updates
No report given.

B. 2026 Exams – First and Second Quarter Examination Results
Mr. Larry Kereszt, Examination Manager and Ms. Vania Sevilla, Examination Development Analyst presented the examination results for 2026 and a historical view of each state exam.

During Public Comment, Mr. Hank commented on how critical Board outreach efforts are. Mr. Hank encouraged the Board to continue those efforts and commented on how the Board's success in this area a positive contrast from his experience with other state boards.

## IX. Legislation

A. 2026 Legislative Calendar
Ms. Criswell reviewed the legislative calendar. The legislature recessed August 31st so bills which were approved by the Legislature are in the hands of the Governor for further action.

B. Discussion of Legislation for 2026 **(Possible Action)**

1. Assembly Bill (AB) 1693 – Accelerated retailer building plan approval

| | |
|---|---|
| **MOTION:** | Mr. Hartley and Dr. Amistad moved to take a watch position on AB 1693 as amended on August 21, 2026. |
| **VOTE:** | 8-0, Motion Carried |

| Member Name | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent | Recusal |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| President Ruffino | X | | | | |
| Vice-President Desirea Haggard | X | | | | |
| Fel Amistad | X | | | | |
| Alireza Asgari | | | | X | |
| Rossana D'Antonio | X | | | | |
| Michael Hartley | X | | | | |
| Betsy Mathieson | | | | X | |
| Guillermo Martinez | | | | X | |
| Wilfredo Sanchez | | | | X | |
| Fermin Villegas | X | | | | |
| Cliff Waldeck | X | | | | |
| Christina Wong | X | | | | |

2. AB 1767 – Public members of boards: conflict of interest
On August 27, 2026, the bill was ordered to the Inactive File and no action is required.

3. AB 1775 – Veterans

| | |
|---|---|
| **MOTION:** | Mr. Hartley and Ms. D'Antonio moved to watch position on AB 1775 as amended on August 13, 2026. |
| **VOTE:** | 8-0, Motion Carried |

| Member Name | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent | Recusal |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| President Ruffino | X | | | | |
| Vice-President Desirea Haggard | X | | | | |
| Fel Amistad | X | | | | |
| Alireza Asgari | | | | X | |
| Rossana D'Antonio | X | | | | |
| Michael Hartley | X | | | | |
| Betsy Mathieson | | | | X | |
| Guillermo Martinez | | | | X | |
| Wilfredo Sanchez | | | | X | |
| Fermin Villegas | X | | | | |
| Cliff Waldeck | X | | | | |
| Christina Wong | X | | | | |

4. AB 1796 – Licensed Professional Interior Designer Act
This bill failed to pass the Legislature by the deadline, so there is no further action required.

5. AB 1933 – Land surveyors: records of survey

| | |
|---|---|
| **MOTION:** | Dr. Amistad and Mr. Hartley moved to take a support position on AB 1993 as amended on August 11, 2026. |
| **VOTE:** | 8-0, Motion Carried |

| Member Name | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent | Recusal |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| President Ruffino | X | | | | |
| Vice-President Desirea Haggard | X | | | | |
| Fel Amistad | X | | | | |
| Alireza Asgari | | | | X | |
| Rossana D'Antonio | X | | | | |
| Michael Hartley | X | | | | |
| Betsy Mathieson | | | | X | |
| Guillermo Martinez | | | | X | |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wilfredo Sanchez | | | | X | |
| Fermin Villegas | X | | | | |
| Cliff Waldeck | X | | | | |
| Christina Wong | X | | | | |

6. AB 2287 – Contractors: disciplinary action
   Discussion of this agenda item is postponed to November 2026 Board Meeting.

7. AB 2435 – Land Surveyors
   Discussion of this agenda item is postponed to November 2026 Board Meeting

8. Senate Bill (SB) 1011 – Energy: Utility Infrastructure AI Safety, Oversight, and Workforce Protection Act
   Discussion of this agenda item is postponed to November 2026 Board Meeting

9. SB 1248 – State agencies: automated decision systems
   Discussion of this agenda item is postponed to November 2026 Board Meeting

## X. Rulemaking

A. Pending Rulemaking Efforts – Status Report
   Discussion of this agenda item is postponed to November 2026 Board Meeting

B. Consideration of Rulemaking Proposal
   1. Discussion to Initiate Rulemaking to Amend California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 5, Section 405, and Division 29, Section 3004, Delegation of Certain Functions **(Possible Action)**
      Discussion of this agenda item is postponed to November 2026 Board Meeting

## XI. Executive Officer's Report

A. Personnel
   Discussion of this agenda item is postponed to November 2026 Board Meeting

B. ABET
   Discussion of this agenda item is postponed to November 2026 Board Meeting

C. Update on Launch of License Renewal Assessment
   Discussion of this agenda item is postponed to November 2026 Board Meeting

D. Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG)
   1. Fall Council of Examiners (COE) Workshop and Annual Meeting October 27-31, 2026 – Hershey, PA – Choose Board Delegate **(Possible Action)**
      Discussion of this agenda item is postponed to November 2026 Board Meeting

E. National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES)
   1. Report from Annual Meeting August 17-21, 2026 **(Possible Action)**
      Discussion of this agenda item is postponed to November 2026 Board Meeting

F. 2027 Proposed Board Meeting Schedule **(Possible Action)**
   Discussion of this agenda item is postponed to November 2026 Board Meeting

G. Update on Outreach Efforts
   Discussion of this agenda item is postponed to November 2026 Board Meeting

## XII. President's Report/Board Member Activities

Discussion of this agenda item is postponed to November 2026 Board Meeting

## XIII. Approval of Meeting Minutes (Possible Action)

A. Approval of July 16, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes

| | |
|---|---|
| **MOTION:** | Mr. Hartley and Ms. Wong moved to approve July 16, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes. |
| **VOTE:** | 8-0, Motion Carried |

| Member Name | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent | Recusal |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| President Ruffino | X | | | | |
| Vice-President Desirea Haggard | X | | | | |
| Fel Amistad | X | | | | |
| Alireza Asgari | | | | X | |
| Rossana D'Antonio | X | | | | |
| Michael Hartley | X | | | | |
| Betsy Mathieson | | | | X | |
| Guillermo Martinez | | | | X | |
| Wilfredo Sanchez | | | | X | |
| Fermin Villegas | X | | | | |
| Cliff Waldeck | X | | | | |
| Christina Wong | | | | | |

## XIV. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

**PUBLIC PRESENT**
Mike Sanchez
Rob McMillan, CLSA
Carl Josephson, SEAOC
Micheal Hank, Caltrans

## XIV. Adjourn