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To: Committee Members Date: March 8, 2021

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Subject: Overview of the Purpose of the Licensing Committee and Identification

of Issues for Discussion

Purpose of the Committee

The Board of Behavioral Sciences (Board) has established a special Licensing Committee (Committee). The Board established the Committee so that the Board and its stakeholders could conduct an in-depth discussion about several topics related to the licensing process.

Issues for Discussion

Staff has identified the following potential topics related to the Board's licensing and examination process that the Committee may wish to discuss at future meetings. These topics are based on feedback or common questions from licensees and registrants, stakeholders, Board members, and Board staff:

- 1. The 12-hour California law and ethics course requirement for renewing registrants with a failing California law and ethics exam score.
- 2. The allowable age of a passing California law and ethics examination score.
- 3. Whether California law and ethics examination attempts should be limited to only those pursuing licensure (i.e. those with a current or delinquent registration number or open application).
- 4. Whether or not the number of exam attempts should be limited.
- 5. Accepting the National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Examination (NCMHCE) from Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC) applicants who may have taken and passed the examination prior to gaining all required experience hours (which is when the Board grants eligibility to take the examination).
- 6. The six-year limit of registration numbers, the prohibition on working in a private practice with a subsequent number, and the requirement that experience hours be

no more than six years old. (These together are commonly referred to as "the six-year rule.")

Recommendation

The Committee may wish to discuss the topics above, and if there are other issues related to the licensing process that it would like to include in the list above for discussion at future meetings. The Committee may also wish to discuss if there is a preferred order in which it would like to discuss the above topics.