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To: Board Members Date: November 10,

2025

From: Steve Sodergren

Executive Officer

Subject: Executive Officer Report

Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) Leadership Weekend

On August 8–10, Executive Officer Steve Sodergren attended the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) Leadership Weekend in Stowe, Vermont. Mr. Sodergren currently serves on ASWB's Regulatory and Standards (RAS) Committee, which reviews and recommends policies and actions related to the association's role in providing regulatory information. As a member of the RAS Committee, Mr. Sodergren participated in evaluating and recommending updates to the ASWB Model Social Work Practice Act, which will be presented for consideration and approval at the association's annual meeting.

<u>Association of Marital and Family Therapy Boards (AMFTRB) Annual Meeting</u>

On September 15, Executive Officer Steve Sodergren attended the Association of Marital and Family Therapy Regulatory Boards (AMFTRB) Annual Conference in Chicago, Illinois. During the meeting, AMFTRB representatives provided updates on the National Examination, including recent developments in exam content, performance data, and administration processes. The conference also featured presentations and discussions on emerging regulatory trends such as the use of artificial intelligence in therapy, psychedelic-assisted treatment, and evolving approaches to post-degree supervision.

<u>Appointments Workshop with Governor Gavin Newsom's Appointments</u> <u>Secretary Morgan Carvajal</u>

On October 23, Dr. Walker participated as a panelist in an Appointments Workshop hosted by the Inland Empire Health Plan's (IEHP) Center for Learning and Innovation. The workshop was designed to provide insight into how community members can engage with the work of boards and commissions prior to applying, and to explore how service on these bodies can support professional growth and inform future roles in

government. Dr. Walker shared her experiences as a board member, offering perspective on the responsibilities, challenges, and rewards of public service.

ASWB Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly

On November 5–8, Executive Officer Sodergren attended the ASWB Annual Meeting of the Delegate Assembly. The agenda included the Association's annual report, an overview of the examination program, a review of significant regulatory cases, and presentations on ASWB's new public relations and communication strategies. One day of the meeting was dedicated to hearing from other jurisdictions about emerging issues in social work regulation and the strategies being used to address them.