



Board of Behavioral Sciences



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Gavin Newsom, Governor
State of California

Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency
Department of Consumer Affairs

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Open sessions of this board meeting were webcasted. Webcast recordings are available on the following links:

November 14: https://youtu.be/Z1KCQR9N_p0

November 15: <https://youtu.be/Tpvva7JwgUc>

DATE

November 14, 2024

LOCATION

Department of Consumer Affairs
1625 North Market Blvd., #S-102
Sacramento CA 95834

TIME

9:00 a.m.

ATTENDEES

Members Present: Wendy Strack, Vice Chair, Public Member
Lorez, Bailey, Public Member
Dr. Nicholas (Nick) Boyd, LPCC Member
Susan Friedman, Public Member
Justin Huft, LMFT Member
Abigail Ortega, LCSW Member
Kelly Ranasinghe, Public Member
Eleanor Uribe, LCSW Member
Dr. Annette Walker, Public Member

Members Absent: Christopher (Chris) Jones, Chair, LEP Member
John Sovec, LMFT Member

Staff Present: Steve Sodergren, Executive Officer
Marlon McManus, Assistant Executive Officer
Christina Kitamura, Administration Analyst
Sabina Knight, Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Legal Counsel
Christine Jacob, DCA Legal Counsel

Other Attendees: Patrice De Guzman Huber, Administrative Law Judge
Adriana Lazark, Deputy Attorney General
Jennifer Marianne Williams (Richter), Petitioner
Alexander Marco Gittinger, Petitioner
Public participation via Webex and in-person

OPEN SESSION

1. Call to Order and Establishment of Quorum

Wendy Strack, Vice Chair of the Board of Behavioral Sciences (Board), called the meeting to order at 9:27 a.m. Roll was called, and a quorum was established.

Agenda items 2 and 3 were heard after agenda item 9.

2. Suggestions for Future Agenda Items

Walker: Overview of the process for evaluating the performance of the Executive Officer.

Friedman: 1) Discuss the problem of medical insurance for mental health treatment; 2) Life coaches.

Huft: Discussion regarding possible changes to accepting education from particular universities that are not abiding by Title IX policies due to legal exemption, which allow them to discriminate against queer students.

3. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

None

Administrative Law Judge Patrice De Guzman Huber presided over the following petition hearings. Deputy Attorney General Adriana Lazark presented the facts of each case on behalf of the People of the State of California.

4. Jennifer Marianne Williams (Richter), LMFT 118702, Petition for Early Termination of Probation

The record was opened at 9:31 a.m., and Jennifer Williams represented herself. Deputy Attorney General Adriana Lazark presented the background of this case. Williams was sworn-in and presented her request for early termination of probation and information to support the request. She was questioned by Lazark and board members. Williams gave a closing remark. The record was closed at 10:18 a.m.

5. Alexander Marco Gittinger, LCSW 118702, Petition for Early Termination of Probation

The record was opened at 10:34 a.m. Alexander Gittinger represented himself. Deputy Attorney General Lazark presented the background of this case. Gittinger was sworn-in and presented his request for early termination of probation and information to support the request. He was questioned by Lazark and board members. Gittinger gave a closing remark. The record was closed at 11:59 a.m.

The Board Chair called for a lunch break before reconvening in closed session.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board entered closed session at 1:17 p.m.

- 6. Pursuant to Section 11126(c)(3) of the Government Code, the Board will Meet in Closed Session for Discussion and to Take Action on Disciplinary Matters, Including the Above Petitions.**
- 7. Pursuant to Section 11126(a)(1) of the Government Code, the Board will Meet in Closed Session to Evaluate the Performance of the Executive Officer**

The Board reconvened in open session at 4:08 p.m.

OPEN SESSION

8. Consent Calendar: Possible Approval of the September 19-20, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

Motion: Approve the September 19-20, 2024 Board meeting minutes.

M/S: Walker/Huft

Discussion/Public Comment: None

Vote: Yea 8; Nay 0, Abstention 1; Absent 2. Motion carried.

Member	Vote
Lorez Bailey	Y
Dr. Nick Boyd	Y
Susan Friedman	Y
Justin Huft	Y
Christopher Jones	absent
Abigail Ortega	Y
Kelly Ranasinghe	Y
John Sovec	absent
Wendy Strack	abstain
Eleanor Uribe	Y
Annette Walker	Y

9. Executive Officer Report

a. Budget Report

- The Board's budget for fiscal year (FY) 24/25 is \$14,300,000.
- Fund Condition reflects a reserve of 17.9 months.

b. Personnel

The Board's staffing activity is as follows:

- 5 new hires
- 1 vacancy

c. Licensing Report

1st Quarter Statistics:

- 5,514 licenses/registrations were issued.
- Population of approximately 147,065 licensees/associates as of October 25, 2024
- 1% gain in license/registration population since the 4th quarter of FY 23/24
- Received 10% more licensing applications than were received in 4th quarter of FY 23/24

Information provided as attachments in the meeting materials:

- BBS Population Report
- Licensing Applications Received/Processing Times
- Administration Applications Received
- Renewal Applications Received

d. Exam Report

1st Quarter Statistics: 5,714 exams were administered in the 4th quarter of FY 23/24 (2% increase from 3rd quarter of FY 23/24).

Sodergren reported on the following:

- Effective January 1, 2024, the Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT) Clinical Exam will reduce from 120-day waiting period to 90-day waiting period.
- Staff is working with Pearson Vue on updating the exam candidate handbook and the LMFT clinical examination failed score reports.
- Pearson Vue contract has been approved through December 31, 2027
- ASWB contract ends June 30, 2025. Staff will be working with ASWB and DCA in procuring a contract through 2030.
- NBCC contract for the ACMHCE ends June 30, 2025. Staff will be working with NBCC and DCA in procuring a contract through 2030. Board staff will request NBCC to take over the approval of the non-ESL accommodations.

Information provided as attachments in the meeting materials:

- Exam Pass Rate Report
- Exam School Report July 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024

e. Enforcement Report

1st Quarter Statistics:

- 519 consumer complaints received
- 284 criminal convictions
- 503 cases closed
- 16 cases referred to Attorney General's (AG) Office
- Average time to complete formal discipline: 369 days
- Average time a case is at the AG's Office: 265 days
- Average time to complete board investigations: 63 days

Information provided as an attachment in the meeting materials: Consumer Complaint and Criminal Conviction Report

f. Education and Outreach Report

Staff conducted 10 outreach events during the 1st quarter.

Information provided as attachments in the meeting materials:

- Social Media Engagement
- Outreach Event Report

g. Organizational Development Report

The following updates were reported:

- BreEZe system update on the online application project
- Consumer Information Center handled 4,010 BBS calls during the 1st quarter.
- Staff received 32,674 emails during the 1st quarter.

Information provided as attachments in the meeting materials:

- BBS Calls Received/Handled by CIC
- BBS Emails Received

h. Strategic Plan Update

Progress updates on Strategic Plan goals were provided as attachment: BBS Strategic Plan Update November 2024.

10. Recess Until 9:00 a.m., Friday, November 15, 2024.

The Board recessed at 4:38 p.m.

DATE November 15, 2024

LOCATION Department of Consumer Affairs
1625 North Market Blvd., #S-102
Sacramento, CA 95834

TIME 9:00 a.m.

ATTENDEES

Members Present: Wendy Strack, Vice Chair, Public Member
Lorez Bailey, Public Member
Dr. Nicholas (Nick) Boyd, LPCC Member
Susan Friedman, Public Member
Justin Huft, LMFT Member
Abigail Ortega, LCSW Member
Kelly Ranasinghe, Public Member
Eleanor Uribe, LCSW Member
Dr. Annette Walker, Public Member

Members Absent: Christopher Jones, Chair, LEP Member
John Sovec, LMFT Member

Staff Present: Steve Sodergren, Executive Officer
Marlon McManus, Assistant Executive Officer
Sabina Knight, DCA Legal Counsel
Kristy Schieldge, DCA Legal Counsel
Rosanne Helms, Legislative Manager
Christy Berger, Regulatory Manager
Christina Kitamura, Administration Analyst
Syreeta Risso, Special Projects and Research Analyst

Other Attendees: Korrina Moreno, DCA
Public participation via Webex and in-person

OPEN SESSION

11. Call to Order and Establishment of Quorum

Wendy Strack, Vice Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Roll was called, and a quorum was established.

Agenda item 15 heard after agenda item 22. Agenda item heard after agenda item 17. Agenda item 18 is cut from the agenda.

12. Introductions

Board members, staff, and attendees introduced themselves.

13. Board Chair Report

a. Board Member Attendance

The current fiscal year attendance report was provided.

b. Future Board Meetings

The 2025 board meeting and committee meeting dates were provided.

c. Staff Recognitions

The following BBS employees received awards:

- Brandy Psomas: 5 years
- Priscila Sazo: 5 years
- Veronica Rosas, 5 years
- Marlon McManus, 25 years

14. Department of Consumer Affairs Update

Korrina Moreno presented the following DCA updates:

- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Steering Committee and leadership appointments
- Unconscious Bias training for board members. Launching in 2025. Members will be required to take the course annually.
- DCA hosting its 2nd live webinar, Military Licensing Resources, on November 21, 2024
- Department of Human Resources released an updated travel policy to align with federal policies. Effective October 1st, DCA will use federal

standard meals and incidental expense rates, and standard and non-standard reimbursement lodging rates for travel.

- DCA's annual charitable campaigns

15. Workforce Development Committee Update

The Workforce Development Committee (Committee) met in October 2024. During its meeting, the Committee discussed the following:

- Possible changes to eligibility requirements for the clinical exams and the licensure process.
- Possible change to the requirements for alcohol and substance abuse coursework for all license types.
- Short-term and long-term goals that may increase support for applicant and registrants and work towards addressing barriers that exist in the licensure pathway

Public Comment: None

16. Wellness Coach Certification Program Presentation by the Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI)

Ann Powell and Christian Jones, HCAI Office of Health Workforce Development, gave a presentation on HCAI's Wellness Coach Certification Program:

- Overview of Process for Creating the Certified Wellness Coach Profession
- Detail on Certified Wellness Coach Profession
 - Scope of Services and Competencies
 - Education
 - Operating Model

Some board members expressed concerns regarding supervision (lack of supervisors), lack of enforcement/disciplinary mechanisms, scope of practice, no examinations for certification, consumer protection. Another concern raised is that this program creates a low wage job that does not create upward mobility and does not create an equitable, culturally responsive mental health workforce.

Other board members expressed support for the creation of this certification program to address shortages and bridging gaps.

Public Comments

Shanti Ezrine, California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (CAMFT): CAMFT is looking forward to engaging with HCAI on the rollout of the program, especially on the following issues: 1) Ensuring consumer protection,

and 2) supporting pathways to licensure for those who are working in these positions.

Dr. Sabrina Morris, California Association of Licensed Professional Clinical Counselors (CALPCC): Echoed the board's concerns regarding consumer protection as well as the workforce development issues. Also expressed concerns regarding the expectation that these paraprofessionals have knowledge of all areas of wellness and to be able to deliver these services when they are the least trained, and that they are expected to serve the most vulnerable populations.

17. Discussion and Possible Recommendations for the Board's Sunset Report

The Board's 2025 Sunset Review report was provided for review. This report must be submitted to the Senate Committee on Business, Professions and Economic Development and Assembly Committee on Business and Professions (Committee) by January 6th, 2025. The report will serve as the basis for a background paper prepared by the Committee. The Board may need to respond to additional questions in preparation for the Sunset Oversight hearings. The hearings will be announced in early 2025.

Discussion

Board members asked procedural questions and questions for clarifications, which were answered by Sodergren.

Initial Motion (later withdrawn): Direct staff to make any discussed changes and make any non-substantive changes and obtain final approval to submit from the Board Chairperson.

M/S: Ranasinghe/Walker

Public Comment and Additional Discussion:

Dr. Ben Caldwell asked if the topic of clinical exam problems, such as the ASWB, should be in the report.

Sodergren responded that the ASWB issue is not reported in the document. He opened the discussion to add a new issue in the report addressing disparities and the exam pass rate. The Board agreed to adding this issue. Ranasinghe withdrew his motion.

Revised Motion: Direct staff to make any discussed changes, include a new item addressing disparities in exam outcomes, and make any non-substantive changes, and obtain final approval to submit from the Board Chairperson.

M/S: Ranasinghe/Walker

Public Comments on the Revised Motion

Shanti Ezrine, California Association of Marriage and Family Therapy (CAMFT):
Pointed out formatting corrections on the document.

G.V. Ayers, California Association for License Professional Clinical Counselors (CALPCC): CALPCC supports Issue 4 regarding adding an LPCC member to the board and Issue 9 regarding license compacts.

Vote: Yea 9; Nay 0; Absent 2. Motion carried.

Member	Vote
Lorez Bailey	Y
Dr. Nick Boyd	Y
Susan Friedman	Y
Justin Huft	Y
Christopher Jones	absent
Abigail Ortega	Y
Kelly Ranasinghe	Y
John Sovec	absent
Wendy Strack	Y
Eleanor Uribe	Y
Annette Walker	Y

18. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Statutory Amendments to the Board's Retired License Requirements (BPC §§ 4984.41, 4989.45, 4997.1, 4999.113)

This item was cut from the agenda.

19. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Proposed Amendments to the Business and Professions Code: Amend BPC §4999.46.2 Regarding Supervision for Professional Clinical Counselor Trainees; Amend BPC §§4980.43.3, 4996.23.2, and 4999.46.3 Regarding W-2 Forms for Supervised Experience Claimed; Amend BPC §§4982, 4989.54, and 4992.3 Regarding Unprofessional Conduct Provisions for Telehealth; and Amend BPC §4980.38 Regarding Degree Program Certification of Meeting Licensure Requirements

The Board approved some amendments for inclusion in the coming year's omnibus or sunset bill at its September 2024 meeting. Today, staff proposed additional amendments for the Board to consider.

1. Amend Business and Professions Code (BPC) §4999.46.2: Supervision for Professional Clinical Counselor Trainees

Background: BPC §4999.46.2(a)(2) states the following:

“For experience gained after January 1, 2009, no more than six hours of supervision, whether individual, triadic, or group, shall be credited during any single week.”

This statement may be misleading and confusing because PCC trainees are not permitted to count pre-degree hours. While this limitation applies to and is appropriate for marriage and family therapist trainees, who do count pre-degree hours, it is not needed for PCC trainees.

Recommendation: Delete the above sentence in BPC §4999.46.2(a)(2).

Note: BPC §4999.46.2 has two sections: one sunsetting on January 1, 2026, and another becoming effective January 1, 2026, due to previous legislation allowing supervision via videoconferencing in all settings. Both sections need to be amended to preserve the change being made to law.

2. Amend BPC §§4980.43.3, 4996.23.2, and 4999.46.3: W-2 Forms for Supervised Experience Claimed

Background: BPC §§ 4980.43.3(a)(1), 4996.23.2(a)(1), and 4999.46.3(a)(1) require associates applying for LMFT, LCSW, and LPCC licensure, respectively, to provide the Board with copies of their W-2 tax forms for each year of experience claimed upon application for licensure.

An associate may not have a W-2 tax form yet for experience gained in the current tax year in which they are applying for licensure. In that case, the Board requests a copy of the most recent pay stub for that year.

Recommendation: Add clarifying language to each of the specified sections stating if the W-2 is not available for experience gained during the tax year that has not ended yet, then the associate needs to provide the Board with a copy of the most recent pay stub.

3. Amend BPC §§ 4982, 4989.54, and 4992.3: Unprofessional Conduct Provisions for Telehealth

Background: BPC §§4982, 4989.54, 4992.3, and 4999.90 contain the unprofessional conduct provisions for the LMFT, LEP, LCSW, and LPCC practice acts, respectively.

Each of these sections contains a provision making it unprofessional conduct to violate BPC §2290.5, which is the section of law that outlines the requirements for the provision of health care services via telehealth. However, each section uses slightly different language to state that violating BPC §2290.5 is unprofessional conduct.

To ensure consistency and clarity, each of these four subdivisions should all utilize the same language to state that a violation of BPC §2290.5 constitutes unprofessional conduct.

Recommendation: Amend BPC §§4982(z), 4989.54(d), and 4992.3(aa) to use the same language used in LPCC statute (BPC §4999.90(ac)).

4. Amend BPC §4980.38: Degree Program Certification of Meeting Registration and Licensure Requirements (Attachment D).

Background: BPC §§ 4980.36 and 4980.37 contain the degree requirements for AMFT registration and LMFT licensure depending on the date that the degree was begun and completed.

While BPC §4980.36 contains the current degree requirements, BPC §4980.37 contains the requirements for older degrees that were begun before August 1, 2012 and completed before December 31, 2018.

Applicants with older degrees qualifying under BPC §4980.37 must also complete additional coursework described in BPC §4980.41 before sitting for the licensing exams. Two of these required courses, described in BPC §4980.41(a)(4) and (5), are alcoholism and other chemical substance dependency, and spousal or partner abuse assessment, detection, and intervention, respectively.

Prior to 2014, those two courses must have been completed within the qualifying master's degree program. If they were not, they could not be remediated, and the degree was considered non-qualifying. An unintended consequence of this was that some applicants did not have this coursework in their qualifying degree and were unable to qualify for licensure unless they obtained a new degree. To address this, the Board sponsored AB 428 (Chapter 376, Statutes of 2013), which allowed these two courses to be remediated outside of the degree program by taking either an additional master's level course, or coursework from an accepted continuing education provider.

However, BPC §4980.38, which requires degree programs to certify that their degree meets the requirements for licensure, mistakenly still requires schools with degrees that qualified under BPC §4980.37 to certify that the two above-discussed courses listed in BPC §4980.41(a)(4) and (5) are contained in their qualifying degree.

Recommendation: Strike the requirement in BPC §4980.38(b)(2) that a qualifying degree program certify that it meets the requirements in BPC §4980.41(a)(4) and (5), as those two courses are permitted to be remediated outside of the qualifying degree program.

Motion: Direct staff to make any discussed changes and any non-substantive changes and to pursue as a legislative proposal.

M/S: Ranasinghe/Uribe

Public Comments

Shanti Ezrine, CAMFT: CAMFT has no concerns.

G.V. Ayers, CALPCC: CALPCC has no concerns.

Vote: Yea 9; Nay 0; Absent 2. Motion carried.

Member	Vote
Lorez Bailey	Y
Dr. Nick Boyd	Y
Susan Friedman	Y
Justin Huft	Y
Christopher Jones	absent
Abigail Ortega	Y
Kelly Ranasinghe	Y
John Sovec	absent
Wendy Strack	Y
Eleanor Uribe	Y
Annette Walker	Y

20. Discussion and Possible Action to Initiate a Rulemaking to Amend the Board's Additional Examination Time: English as a Second Language Regulations (16 CCR § 1805.2)

The Board established its English as a Second Language (ESL) additional examination time allowance via regulation in 2017. The regulations, 16 CCR §1805.2, supersede any allowances offered by the Board's test vendors. They allow the Board to grant additional examination time of time-and-a-half (1.5x) to an ESL applicant if they meet one of the specified criteria:

1. A score of 85 or below on the Test of English as a Foreign Language, Internet Based Test (TOEFL-iBT), taken in the past 2 years.
2. Documentation from the qualifying master's degree program that the program had granted the applicant additional exam time or another allowance due to speaking English as a second language.
3. Documentation that the qualifying master's degree was obtained from a school outside the U.S. and that at least half the coursework was presented in a language other than English.

Each of the Board's exam vendors have their own ESL allowances. But because the Board has established its own ESL regulations, the exam vendors accept the Board's ESL policies as overriding their own. Furthermore, the Board's approval process can take some time to either approve or deny.

Workforce Development Committee and Policy and Advocacy Committee Discussion

The Workforce Development Committee considered this topic at its January and April 2024 meetings. It also directed staff to do the following research:

- Examine the Board's current exam time allowances and compare those with the amount of time time-and-a-half allows (provided as Attachment B in the meeting materials).
- Review the ESL allowances of other DCA boards to determine how they compare with the Board's ESL allowance.
 - The Boards of Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Optometry, Veterinary Medicine, Dental Board, and Dental Hygiene Board do not have ESL allowances in their statutes or regulations.
 - Acupuncture Board does not have ESL regulations, but offers their exam in English, Mandarin, and Korean. They have a mechanism in law to request translation into another language if that language represents over 5% of its applicants.
 - Psychology Board has ESL Regulations that are very similar to this Board's. It requires an attestation that English is the second language, and a TOEFL score of 85 or below, taken within the past two years. Qualifying test-takers receive time-and-a-half.

The proposed amendments resulting from the Workforce Development Committee's discussion were provided as Attachment A in the meeting materials. The language creates a new option to qualify for an ESL allowance by certifying the following under penalty of perjury:

"I hereby certify that I do not speak English as my primary language. I most frequently speak another language to communicate with others and have difficulty reading, writing or speaking English proficiently."

The language for the attestation was recommended by the Board's Regulatory Counsel based on the California Civil Rights Department's definitions of "Limited English proficient persons" and "Primary language" in regulations. Those definitions can be found in California Code of Regulations Title 2, §14100(d) and (e).

The Board's Policy and Advocacy Committee considered the language at its August 2024 meeting and directed staff to bring that language, as written, to the Board for consideration as a regulatory proposal.

Public Comments

Dr. Ben Caldwell: Supports the proposed language.

Shanti Ezrine, CAMFT: Supports the proposed language and has no concerns.

G.V. Ayers, CALPCC: Supports the proposed language.

Motion: Approve the proposed regulatory text in Attachment A and complete all the following actions:

- i. Direct staff to submit the text in Attachment A to the Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs and the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency for review and if no adverse comments are received, authorize the Executive Officer to take all steps necessary to initiate the rulemaking process, make any non-substantive changes to the package, and set the matter for a hearing if requested.
- ii. If no adverse comments are received during the 45-day comment period and no hearing is requested, authorize the Executive Officer to take all steps necessary to complete the rulemaking and adopt the proposed regulations as noticed for title 16, California Code of Regulations section 1805.2.

M/S: Walker/Bailey

Public Comment: None

Vote: Yea 9; Nay 0; Absent 2. Motion carried.

Member	Vote
Lorez Bailey	Y
Dr. Nick Boyd	Y
Susan Friedman	Y
Justin Huft	Y
Christopher Jones	absent
Abigail Ortega	Y
Kelly Ranasinghe	Y
John Sovec	absent
Wendy Strack	Y
Eleanor Uribe	Y
Annette Walker	Y

21. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Statutory Amendments to Licensing Requirements for Licensed Educational Psychologists (BPC § 4989.20)

The purpose of this agenda item is to discuss potential amendments to BPC §4989.20, the statute that specifies licensing requirements for LEPs.

If the statutory change becomes law, the Board will need to pursue regulatory amendments, which are currently being discussed in the Policy and Advocacy Committee.

The proposed statutory amendments were provided as Attachment A in the meeting materials.

Previous Board Action

The Board approved this proposal at its September 2024 meeting and directed staff to pursue it as a legislative proposal. However, at that meeting, a Board member raised a concern about the language in BPC §4989.20(a)(4) requiring completion of “60 semester hours of postgraduate work” in pupil personnel services.

After investigating further and consulting with stakeholders, staff believes the following amendment provides more clarity and better aligns with the current Commission on Teacher Credentialing Program Standards:

BPC §4989.20)(a)(4) Successful completion of 60 ~~semester hours of postgraduate work~~ semester units or 90 quarter units of postgraduate study in pupil personnel services.

Motion: Direct staff to make any discussed changes and any non-substantive changes, and to pursue as a legislative proposal.

M/S: Uribe/Ranasinghe

Public Comment: None

Vote: Yea 9; Nay 0; Absent 2. Motion carried.

Member	Vote
Lorez Bailey	Y
Dr. Nick Boyd	Y
Susan Friedman	Y
Justin Huft	Y
Christopher Jones	absent
Abigail Ortega	Y
Kelly Ranasinghe	Y
John Sovec	absent

Wendy Strack	Y
Eleanor Uribe	Y
Annette Walker	Y

22. Update on Board-Sponsored and Board-Monitored Legislation

Board-Sponsored Legislation

SB 1024 (Ochoa Bogh) Healing Arts: Board of Behavioral Sciences: Licensees and Registrants

Status: This bill was signed by the Governor and becomes effective January 1, 2025.

SB 1526 (Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee) Consumer Affairs (Omnibus Bill Proposal)

Status: This bill was signed by the Governor.

Board-Supported Legislation

SB 26 (Umberg) Mental Health Professions: CARE Scholarship Program

Status: Vetoed by the Governor.

SB 1067 (Smallwood-Cuevas) Healing Arts: Expedited Licensure Process: Medically Underserved Area or Population

Status: Vetoed by the Governor.

Board Member/Public Comments

Ranasinghe: Disappointed that SB 26 was vetoed.

Ortega: Excited that AB 2270 and AB 2581 were signed by the Governor.

Shanti Ezrine, CAMFT: The FAQs on SB 1024, developed by board staff, were very helpful.

23. Update on Board Rulemaking Proposals

Disciplinary Guidelines

Status: In the initial review process and now at Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency

Unprofessional Conduct

Status: Approved by the Office of Administrative Law and takes effect January 1, 2025

Telehealth

Status: Public comment period began November 1st and ends on December 16th.

Continuing Education

Status: Submitted to DCA Legal Affairs to begin the initial review process

Advertising regulation

Status: Submitted to DCA Legal Affairs to begin the initial review process

Discussion/Public Comment: None

24. Suggestions for Future Agenda Items

Boyd: 1) To specify, in law, the courses that need to be satisfied before trainees enter their clinical experiences. Currently as it is written, it gives a unit number of hours, but it does not specify what courses should be satisfied. 2) The law does not specify the credentials that supervisors for trainees must have, and what the requirements are of those supervisors. What are the expectations of supervision? The Board should make it a priority to establish regulations that make explicit the type of field experience required for trainees and who is considered an eligible supervisor.

Ranasinghe: Update on statements BBS will make on the Certified Wellness Coach supervision.

25. Public Comment for Items not on the Agenda

None

26. Adjournment

The Board adjourned at 12:08 p.m.