



Gavin Newsom, Governor

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

Board for Professional Engineers,
Land Surveyors, and Geologists

Thursday, September 10, 2026,
beginning at 9:00 a.m., and continuing
Friday, September 11, 2026, if necessary



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

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

BOARD MEETING

SEPTEMBER 10-11, 2026

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

BOARD MEMBERS

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

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III.	Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda 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.	9
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I. Roll Call to Establish a Quorum

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

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 - 2. Shahrokh Esmaily-Radvar v. 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
- B. Fiscal Year 2026/27 Budget Report

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.

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.

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

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

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.

	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%

Surplus/(Deficit)

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

FINANCIAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2025-26 FISCAL MONTH 12 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Revenues

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Total	\$12,656,830	\$11,893,585	\$12,936,046	\$12,750,559

Total Reimbursements as of FM 12 totaled \$196,361 including \$73,402 in Fingerprint Reports, \$2,975 in Reimbursements-Private Sectors, and \$119,984 in US Cost Recovery. Fingerprint Report expenses are included in the General Expense category.

Department of Consumer Affairs

Expenditure Projection Report

Fiscal Month: 12

Fiscal Year: 2025 - 2026

Run Date: 08/13/2026

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
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	5304 COMMUNICATIONS	\$5,820	\$8,248	\$35,000	24%	\$8,248
	5306 POSTAGE	\$26,160	\$26,279	\$58,000	45%	\$26,279
	53202-204 IN STATE TRAVEL	\$37,323	\$45,533	\$90,000	51%	\$45,533
	53206-208 OUT OF STATE TRAVEL	\$298	\$2,205	\$0	0%	\$2,205
	5322 TRAINING	\$2,000	\$350	\$15,000	2%	\$350
3	5324 FACILITIES	\$482,994	\$489,954	\$377,000	130%	\$489,954
4	53402-53403 C/P SERVICES (INTERNAL)	\$683,398	\$702,557	\$1,404,000	50%	\$702,557
5	53404-53405 C/P SERVICES (EXTERNAL)	\$2,260,498	\$2,417,936	\$3,112,000	78%	\$2,417,936
6	5342 DEPARTMENT PRORATA	\$1,971,840	\$2,270,856	\$2,324,000	98%	\$2,270,856
7	5342 DEPARTMENTAL SERVICES	\$24,212	\$23,862	\$25,000	95%	\$23,862
	5344 CONSOLIDATED DATA CENTERS	\$25,014	\$23,761	\$22,000	108%	\$23,761
	5346 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	\$254,520	\$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	\$5,950,042	\$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%

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

Prepared 8/13/2026

PY 2024-25 Actuals and CY 2025-26 FM 12 Projections

	Actual 2024-25	CY 2025-26	BY 2026-27	BY +1 2027-28
BEGINNING BALANCE				
Prior Year Adjustment	\$ 3,267	\$ 3,680	\$ 3,671	\$ 5,714
Adjusted Beginning Balance	\$ 432	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
	\$ 3,699	\$ 3,680	\$ 3,671	\$ 5,714
REVENUES, TRANSFERS AND OTHER ADJUSTMENTS				
Revenues				
4121200 - Delinquent fees	\$ 80	\$ 67	\$ 113	\$ 111
4127400 - Renewal fees	\$ 9,302	\$ 10,092	\$ 13,282	\$ 12,918
4129200 - Other regulatory fees	\$ 104	\$ 150	\$ 97	\$ 103
4129400 - Other regulatory licenses and permits	\$ 2,197	\$ 2,395	\$ 3,110	\$ 3,109
4163000 - Income from surplus money investments	\$ 300	\$ 224	\$ 176	\$ 224
4171400 - Escheat of unclaimed checks and warrants	\$ 43	\$ 8	\$ 12	\$ 8
Totals, Revenues	\$ 12,026	\$ 12,936	\$ 16,790	\$ 16,474
TOTALS, REVENUES, TRANSFERS AND OTHER ADJUSTMENTS	\$ 12,026	\$ 12,936	\$ 16,790	\$ 16,474
TOTAL RESOURCES	\$ 15,725	\$ 16,616	\$ 20,461	\$ 22,188
Expenditures:				
1111 Department of Consumer Affairs Regulatory Boards, Bureaus, Divisions (State Operations)	\$ 11,508	\$ 12,158	\$ 13,525	\$ 13,931
9892 Supplemental Pension Payments (State Operations)	\$ 58	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
9900 Statewide General Administrative Expenditures (Pro Rata) (State Operations)	\$ 479	\$ 787	\$ 1,222	\$ 1,222
TOTALS, EXPENDITURES AND EXPENDITURE ADJUSTMENTS	\$ 12,045	\$ 12,945	\$ 14,747	\$ 15,153
FUND BALANCE				
Reserve for economic uncertainties	\$ 3,680	\$ 3,671	\$ 5,714	\$ 7,035
Months in Reserve	3.4	3.0	4.5	5.6

NOTES:

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

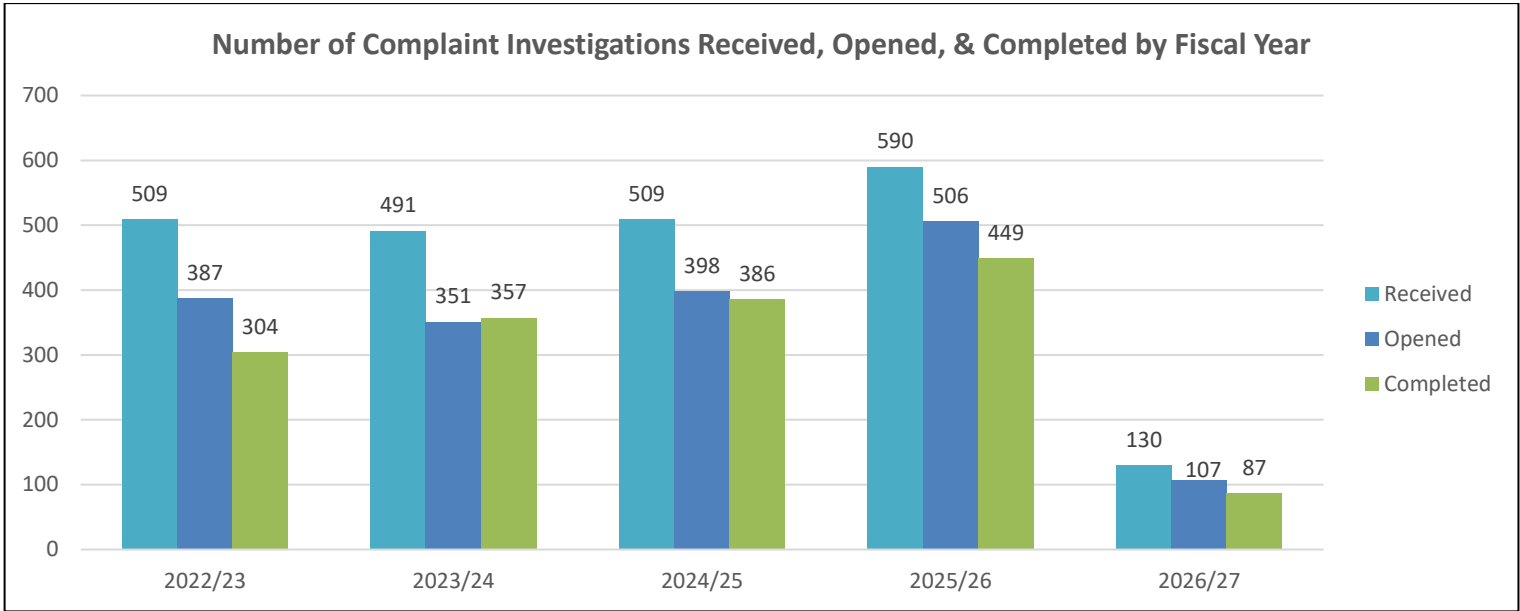
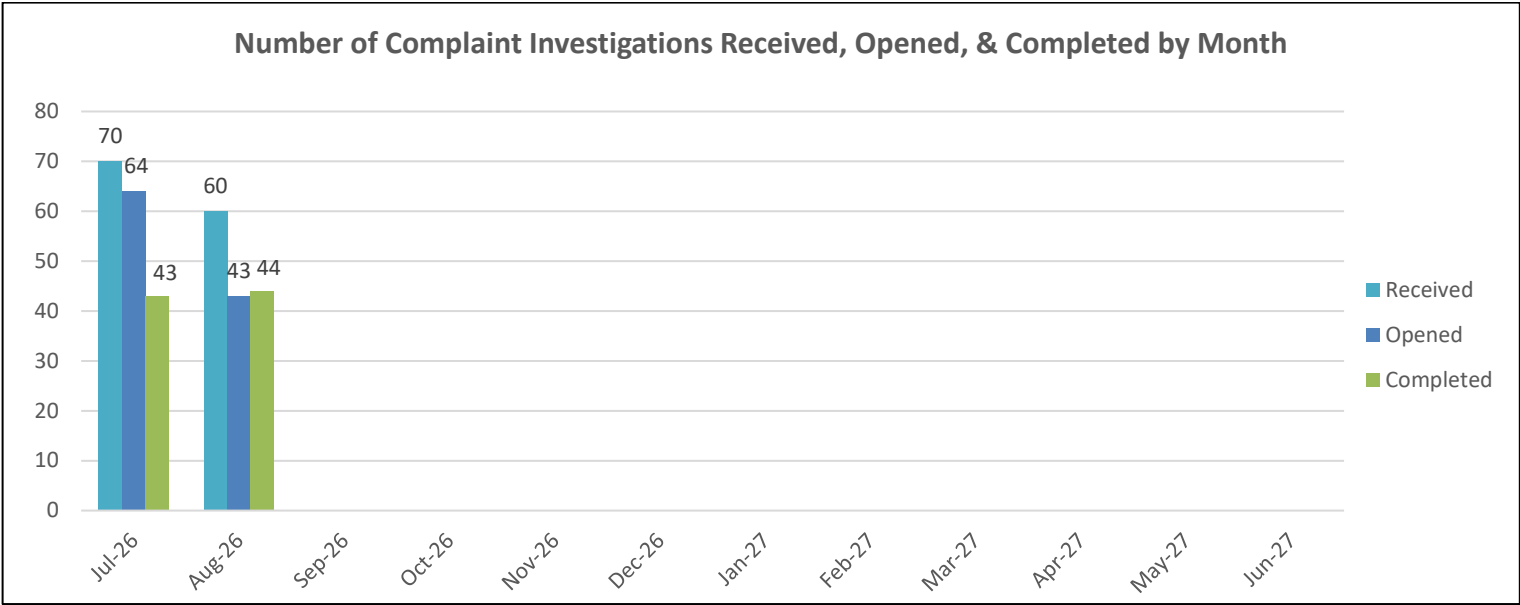
Expenditure Report Notes

- 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

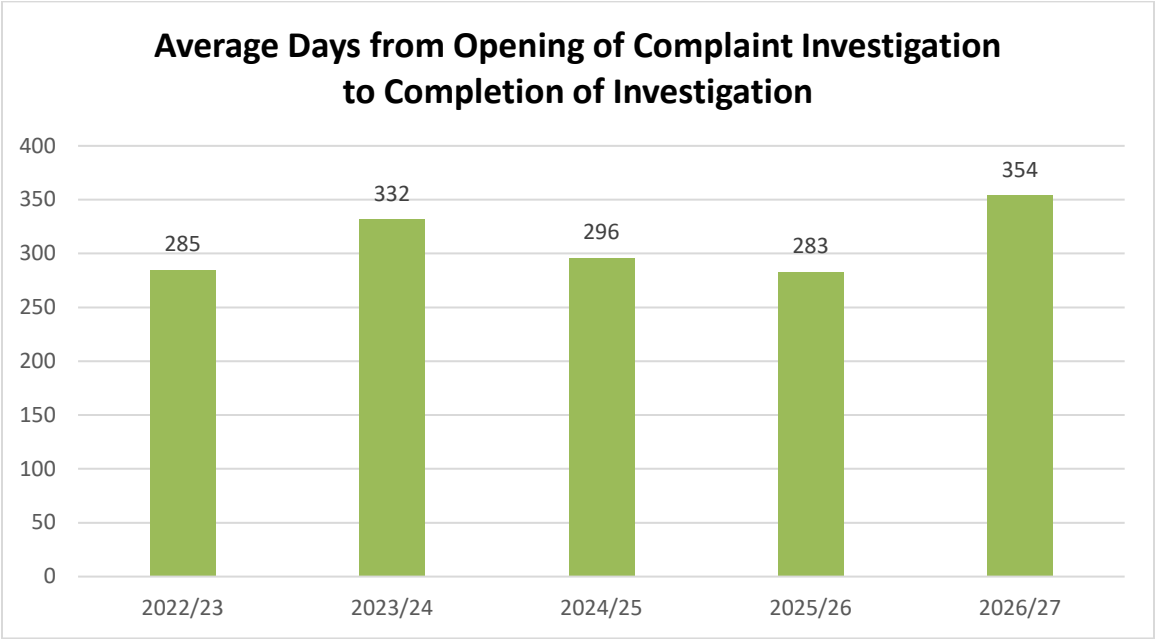
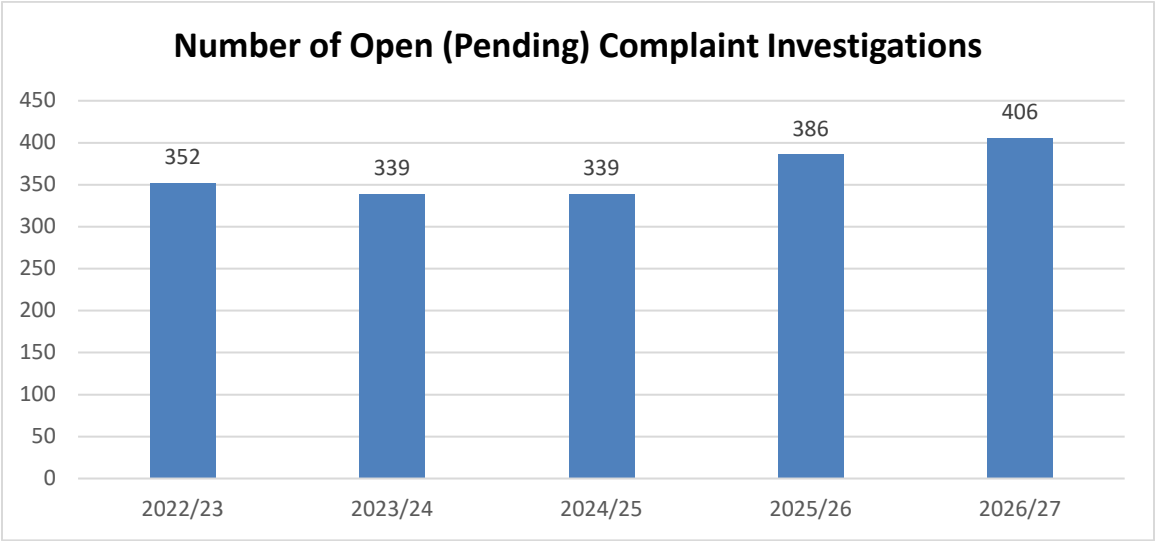
- A. Enforcement Statistical Reports
 - 1. Fiscal Year 2026/27 Update

Complaint Investigation Phase



NOTE: FY26/27 statistics are through August 31, 2026

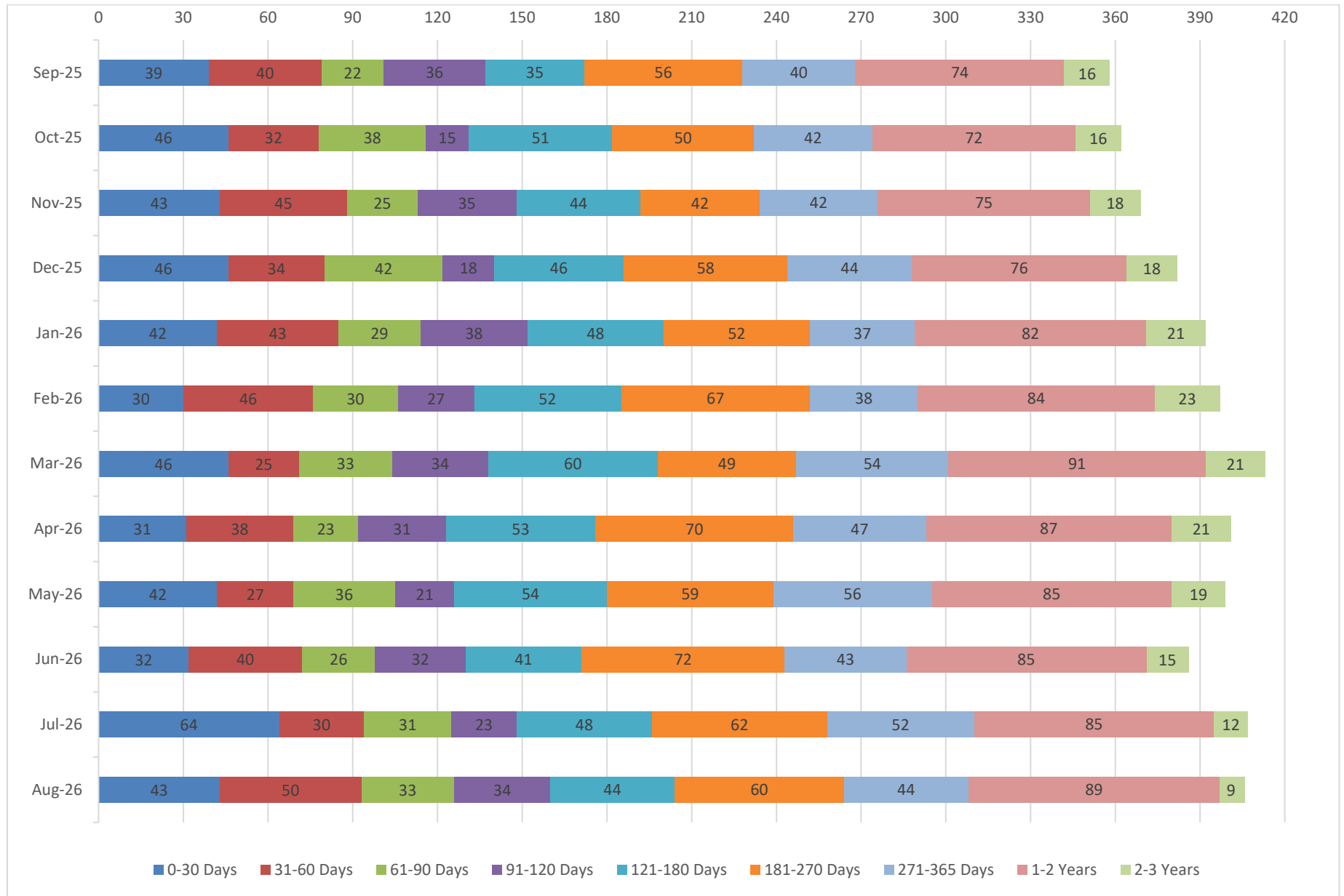
Complaint Investigation Phase



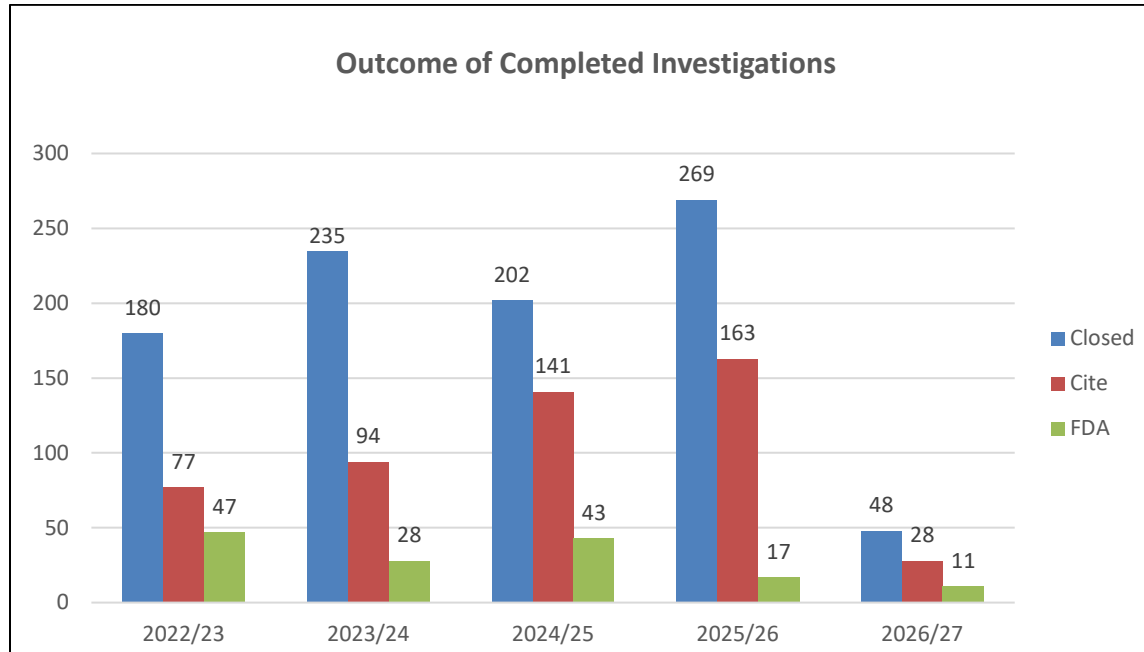
NOTE: FY26/27 statistics are through August 31, 2026

Complaint Investigation Phase

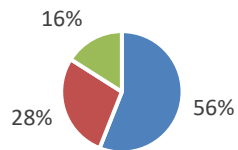
Aging of Open (Pending) Complaint Investigation Cases – 12-Month Cycle



Complaint Investigation Phase

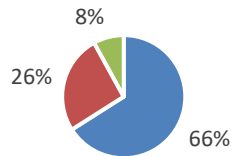


FY22/23
Total: 304



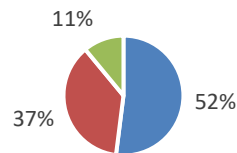
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FY23/24
Total: 357



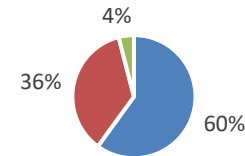
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FY24/25
Total: 386



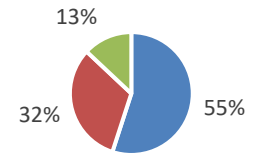
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FY25/26
Total: 449



■ Closed ■ Cite ■ FDA

FY26/27
Total: 87



■ Closed ■ Cite ■ FDA

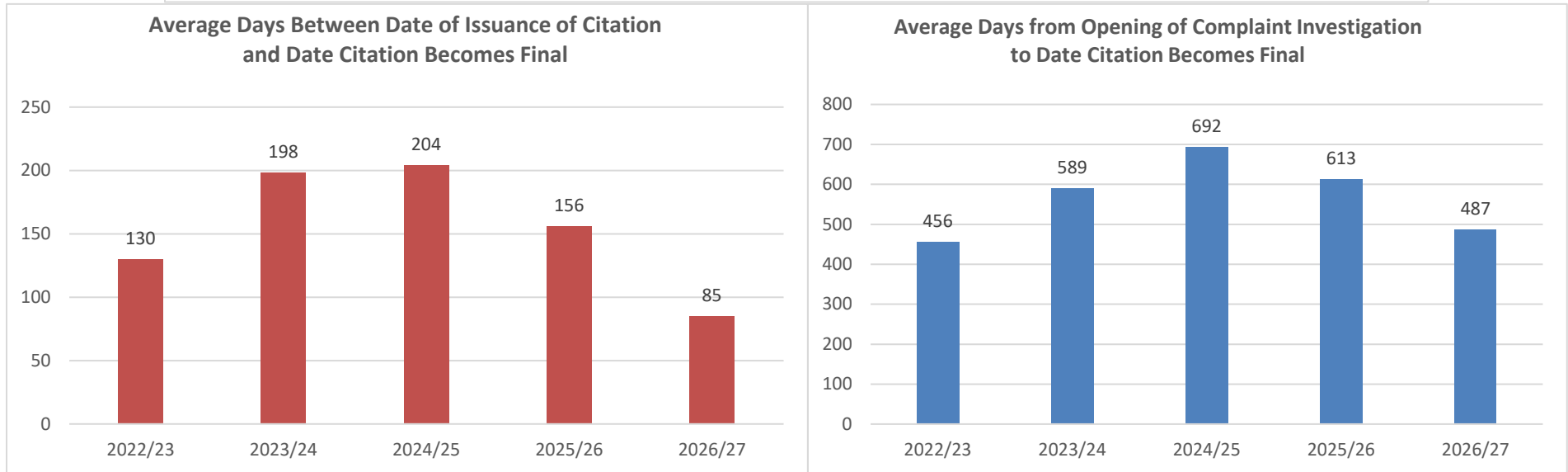
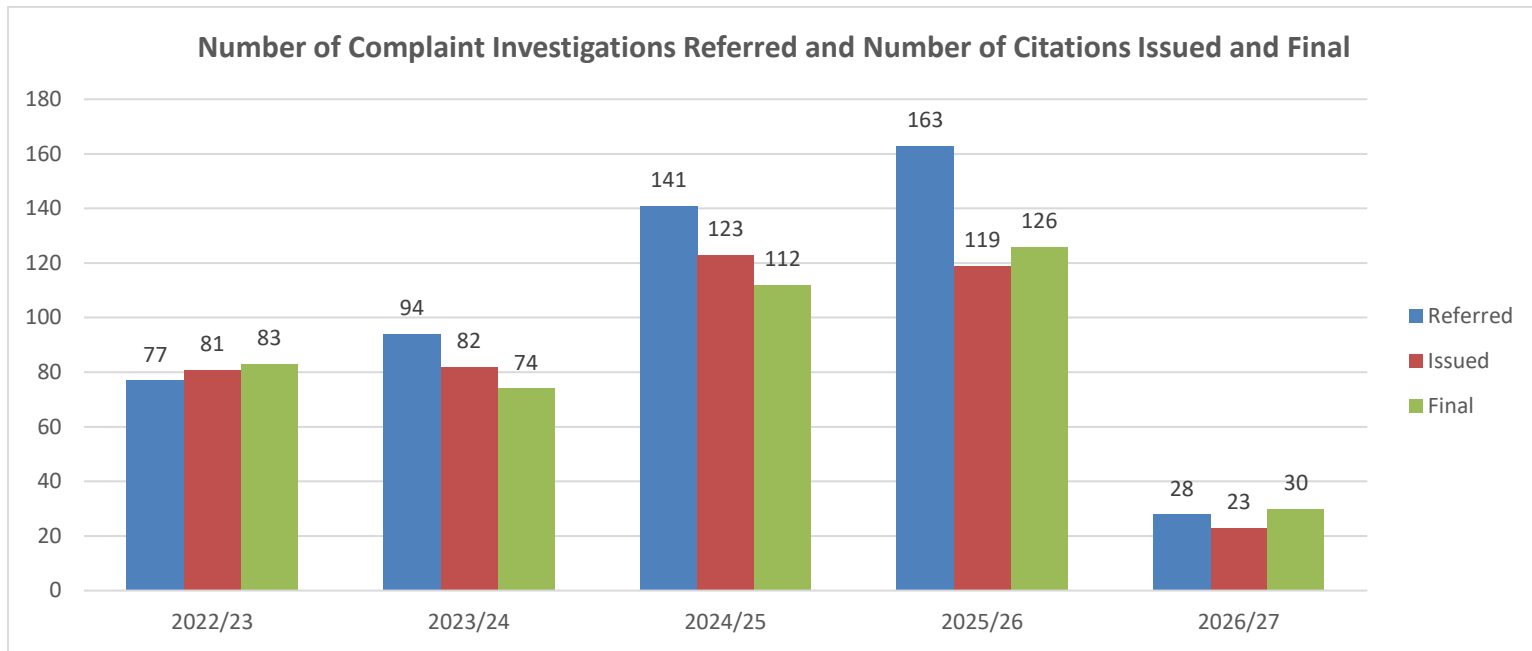
NOTE: FY26/27 statistics are through August 31, 2026

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

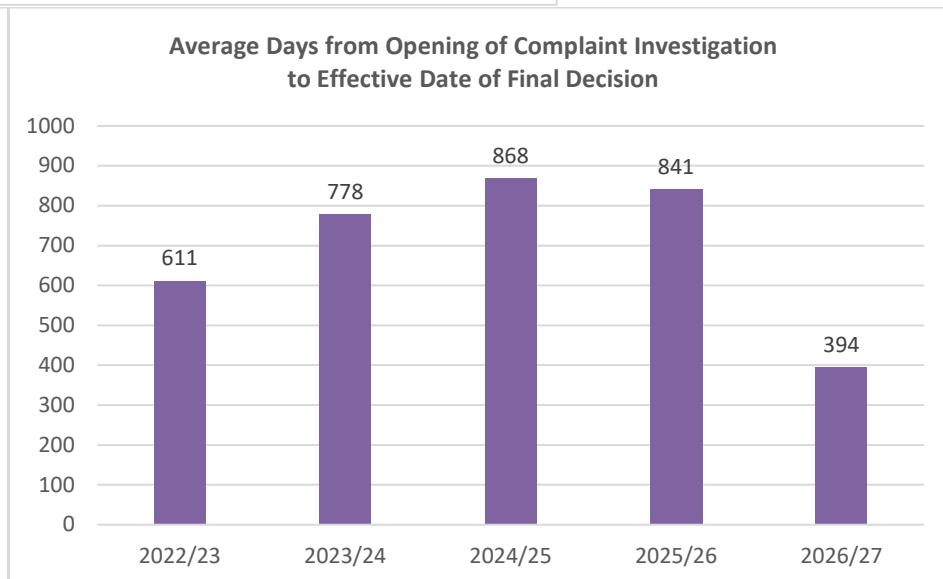
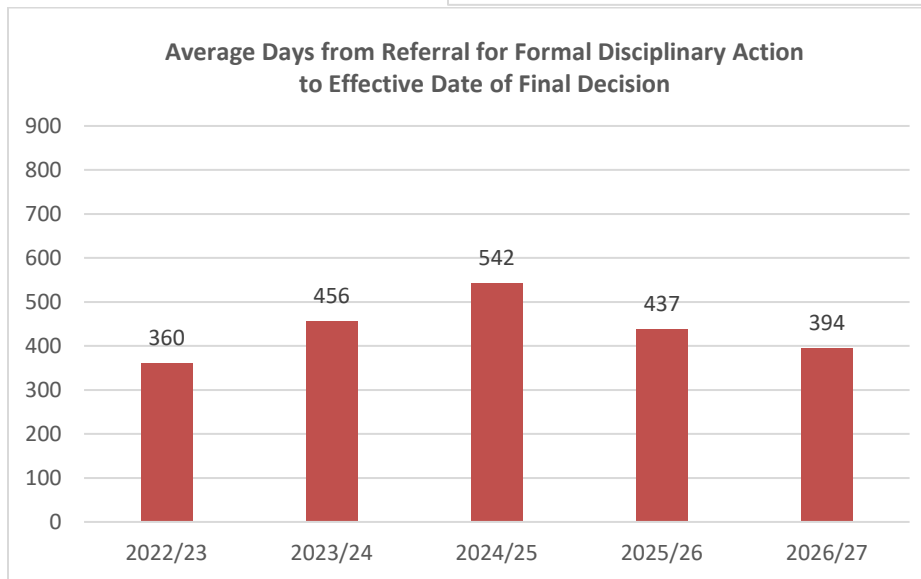
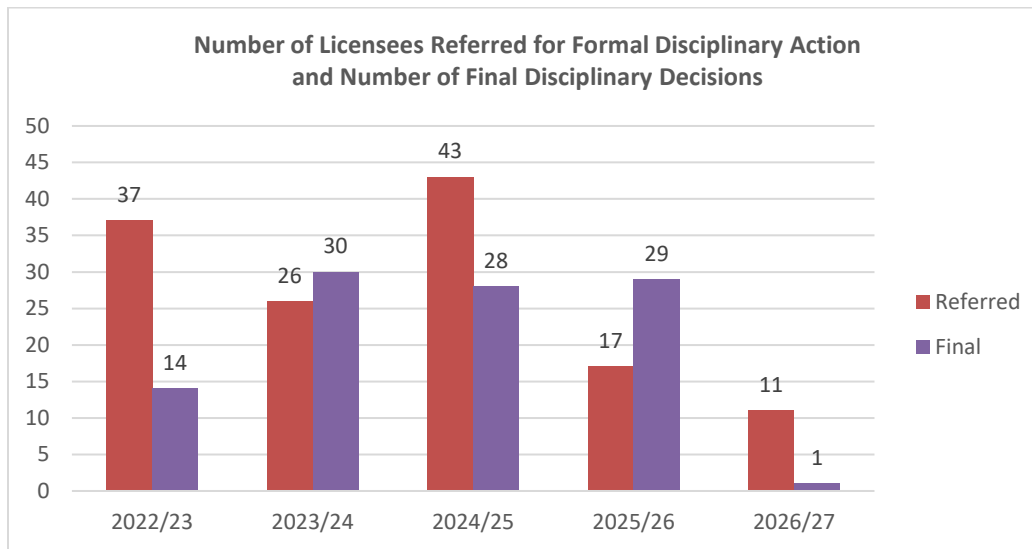
FDA = Referred for Formal Disciplinary Action

Citations (Informal Enforcement Actions)



NOTE: FY26/27 statistics are through August 31, 2026

Formal Disciplinary Actions Against Licensees



NOTE: FY26/27 statistics are through August 31, 2026

VIII. Exams/Licensing

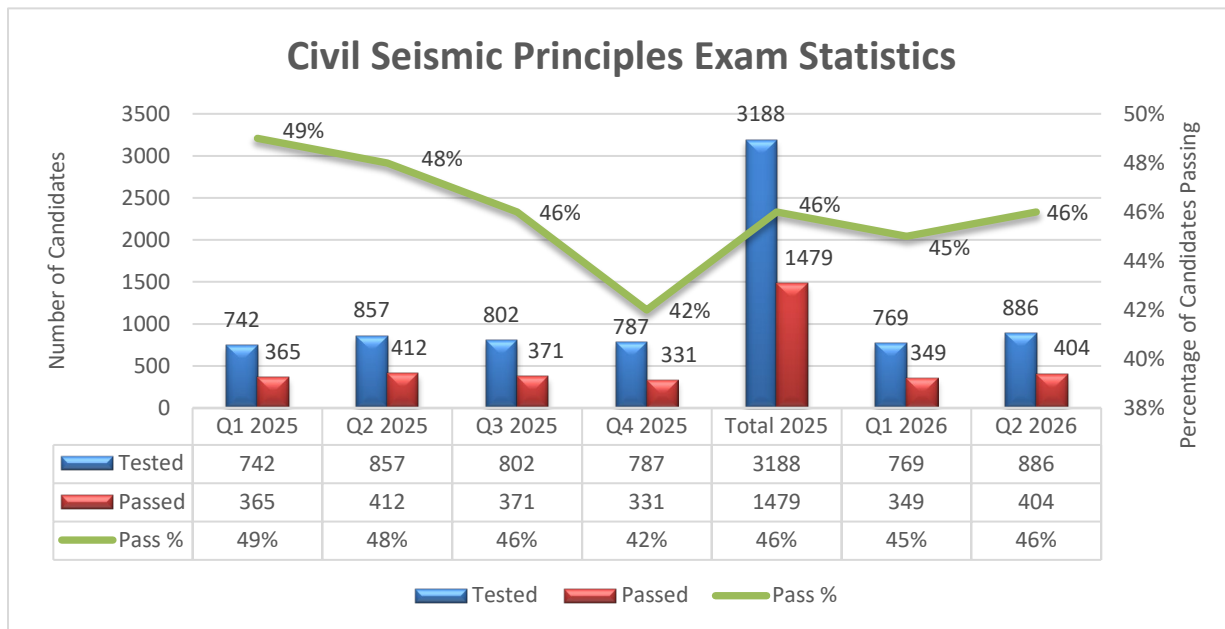
- A. Examination/Licensing Updates
- B. 2026 Exams – First and Second Quarter Examination Results

2026 Exam Result Statistics

	Computer-Based Exams (CBT)		
	January - June 2026		
	California Candidates		
	Total Number of Candidates	Number Passed	Pass %
Agricultural Engineer	Fall Exam		
Chemical Engineer	38	13	34
Civil Engineer	1706	923	54
Control Systems Engineer	49	21	43
Electrical Engineer	388	176	45
Fire Protection Engineer	47	42	89
Fundamentals of Engineering	4,107	1,916	47
Fundamentals of Surveying	254	104	41
Industrial Engineer	Fall Exam		
Mechanical Engineer	265	149	56
Metallurgical Engineer	Fall Exam		
Nuclear Engineer	Fall Exam		
Petroleum Engineer	Fall Exam		
Practice of Surveying	142	62	44
Structural Engineer Exam			
<i>Each exam is comprised of a Vertical and Lateral component</i>			
<i>Each component is comprised of a Breadth section and Depth</i>			
<i>A candidate must pass all four exam sections in order to 'Pass'</i>			
Structural Engineer - Vertical	151	69	46
Structural Engineer - Lateral	121	54	45

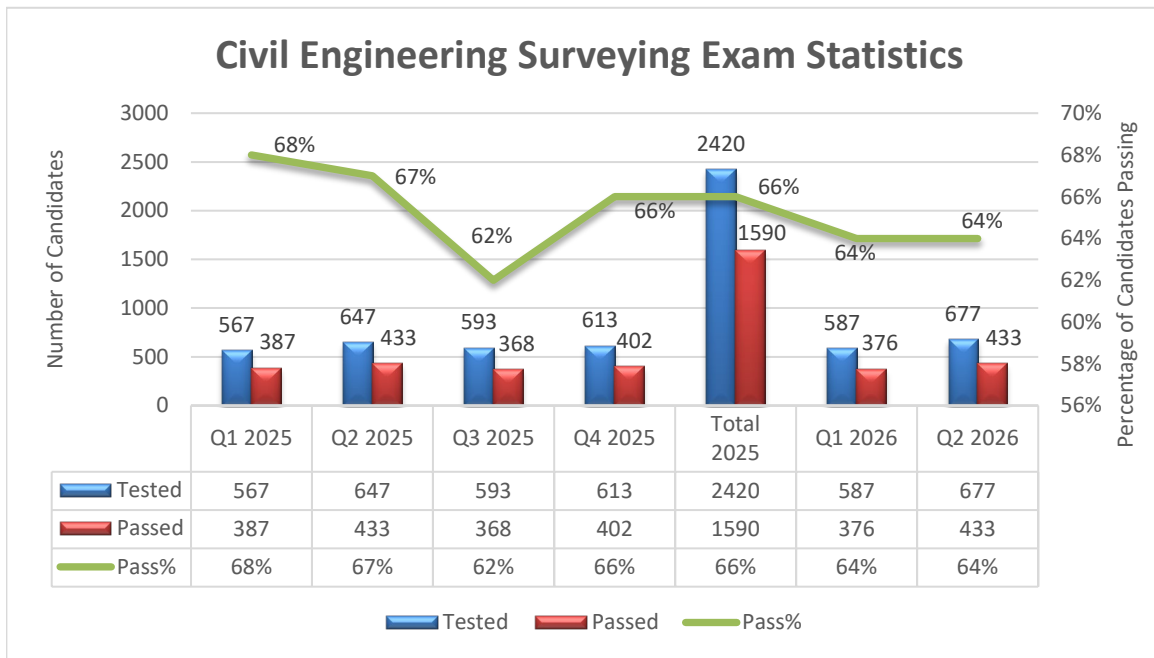
Civil- Seismic Principles

Exam Cycle	Tested	Passed	Pass %
Q1 2025	742	365	49%
Q2 2025	857	412	48%
Q3 2025	802	371	46%
Q4 2025	787	331	42%
Total 2025	3188	1479	46%
Q1 2026	769	349	45%
Q2 2026	886	404	46%



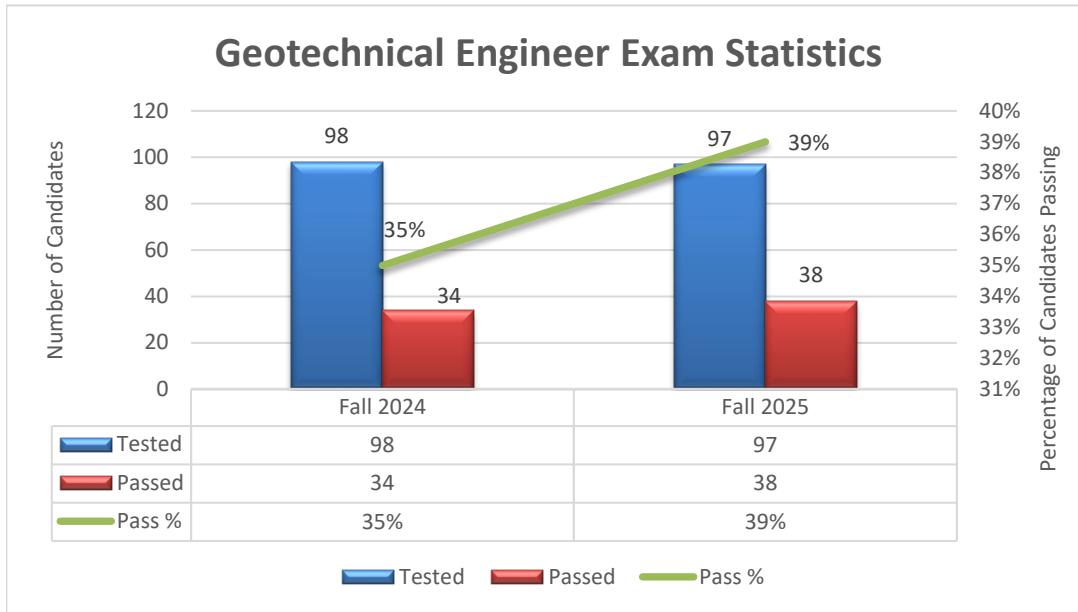
Civil Engineering Surveying

Exam Cycle	Tested	Passed	Pass%
Q1 2025	567	387	68%
Q2 2025	647	433	67%
Q3 2025	593	368	62%
Q4 2025	613	402	66%
Total 2025	2420	1590	66%
Q1 2026	587	376	64%
Q2 2026	677	433	64%



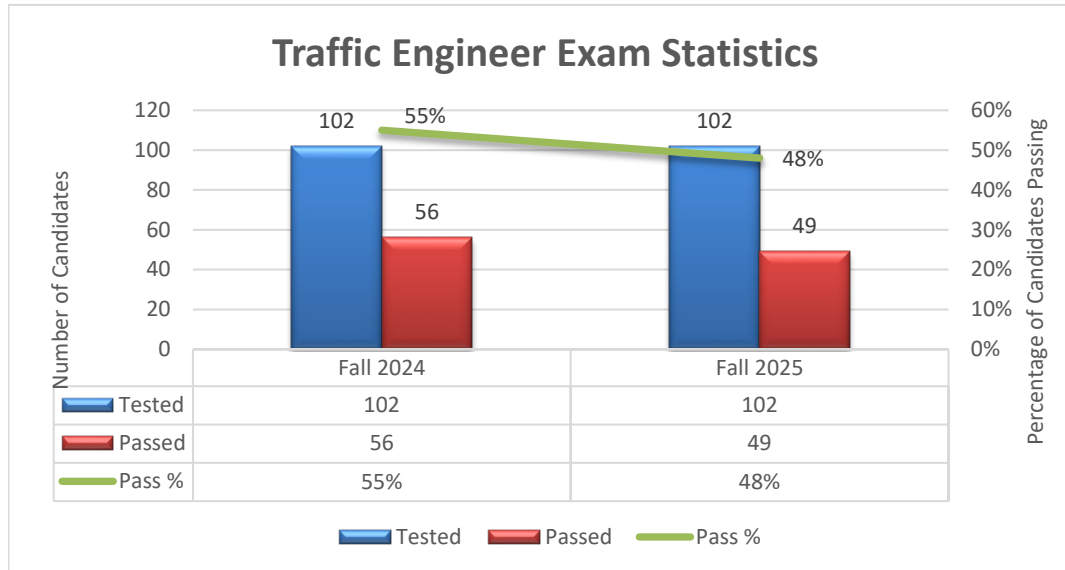
Geotechnical Engineer

Exam Cycle	Tested	Passed	Pass %
Spring 2024	Fall Only	Fall Only	Fall Only
Fall 2024	98	34	35%
Spring 2025	Fall Only	Fall Only	Fall Only
Fall 2025	97	38	39%



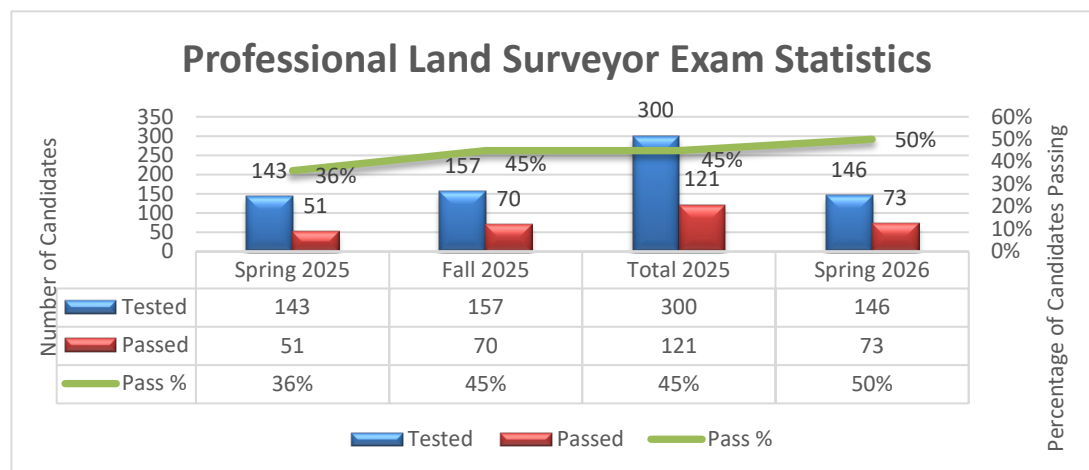
Traffic Engineer

Exam Cycle	Tested	Passed	Pass %
Spring 2024	Fall Only	Fall Only	Fall Only
Fall 2024	102	56	55%
Spring 2025	Fall Only	Fall Only	Fall Only
Fall 2025	102	49	48%



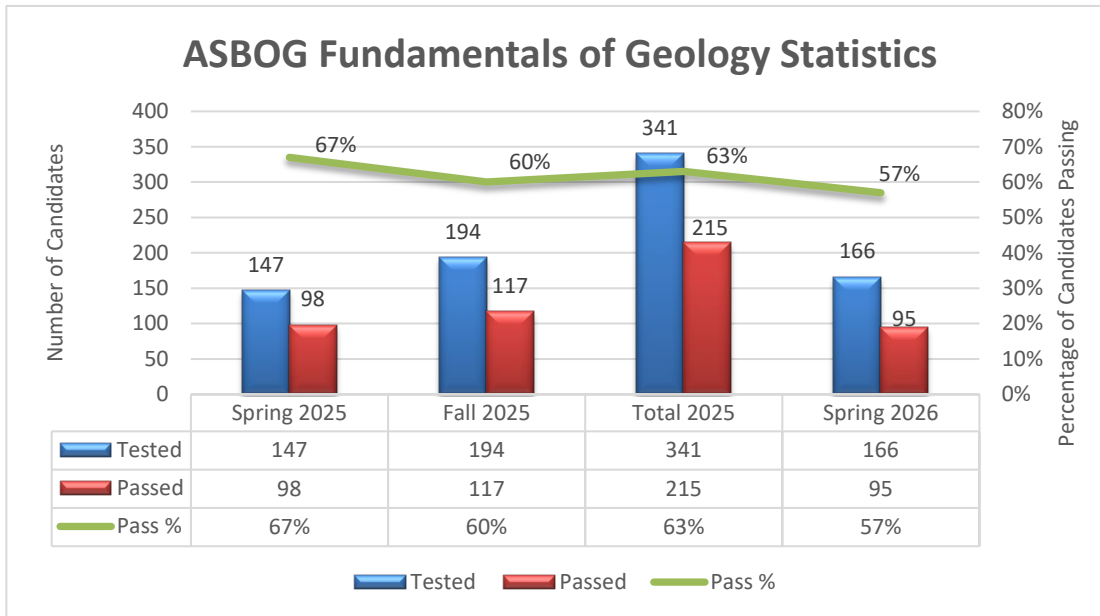
Professional Land Surveyor

Exam Cycle	Tested	Passed	Pass %
Spring 2025	143	51	36%
Fall 2025	157	70	45%
Total 2025	300	121	45%
Spring 2026	146	73	50%

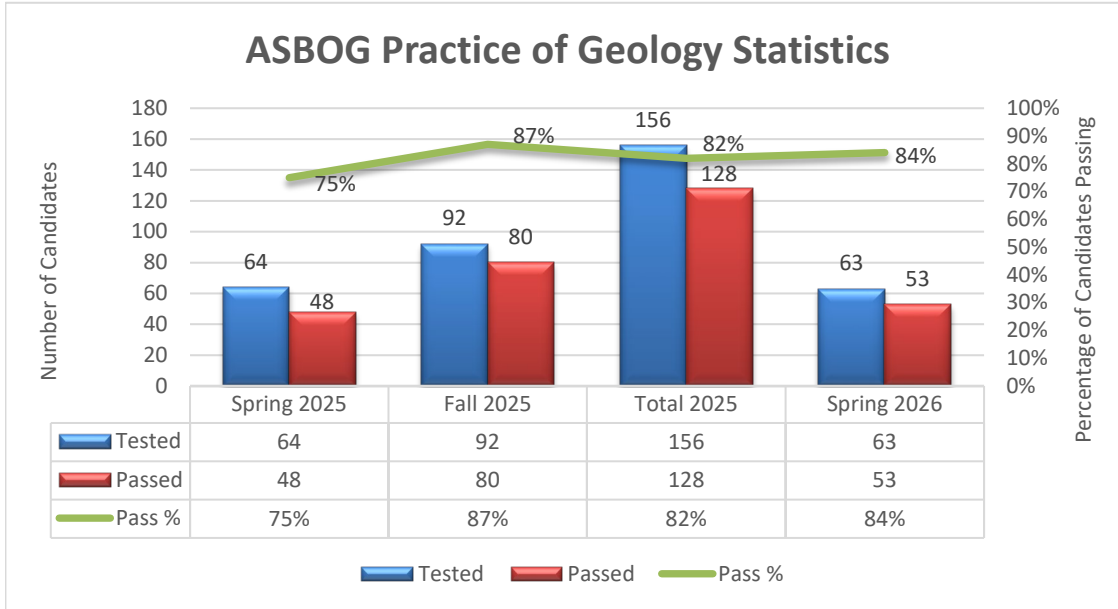


ASBOG Fundamentals of Geology

Exam Cycle	Tested	Passed	Pass %
Spring 2025	147	98	67%
Fall 2025	194	117	60%
Total 2025	341	215	63%
Spring 2026	166	95	57%

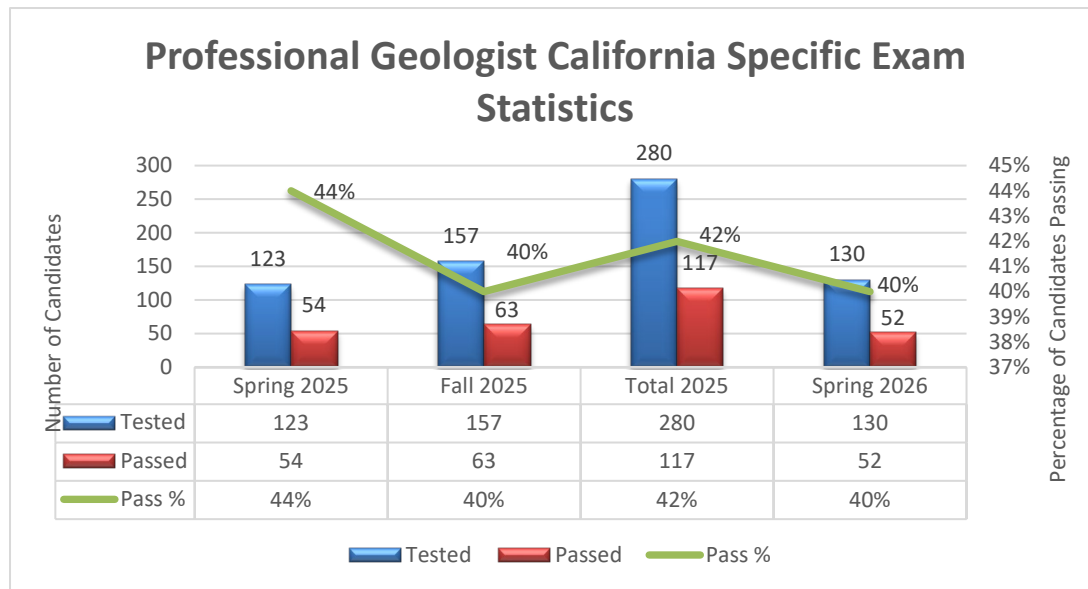


ASBOG Practice of Geology			
Exam Cycle	Tested	Passed	Pass %
Spring 2025	64	48	75%
Fall 2025	92	80	87%
Total 2025	156	128	82%
Spring 2026	63	53	84%



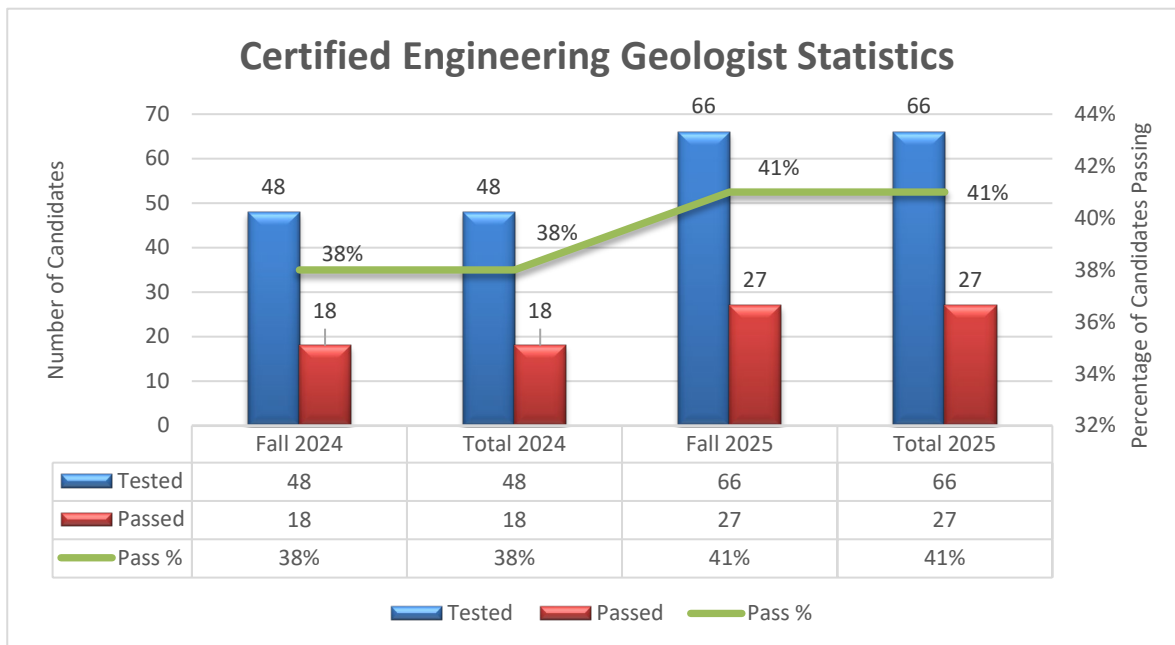
PG- California Specific Exam

Exam Cycle	Tested	Passed	Pass %
Spring 2025	123	54	44%
Fall 2025	157	63	40%
Total 2025	280	117	42%
Spring 2026	130	52	40%



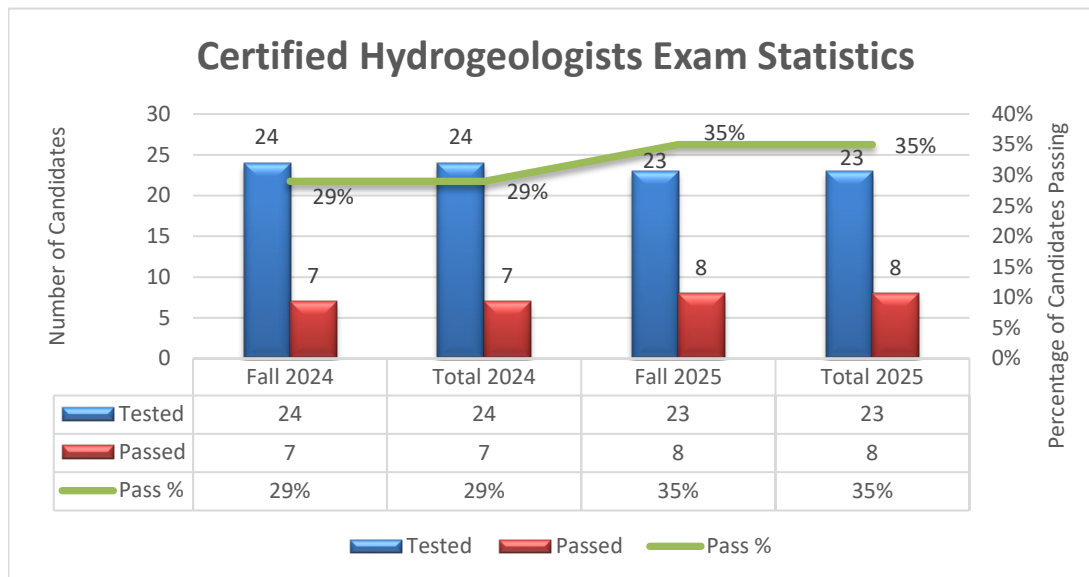
PG- Certified Engineering Geologist

Exam Cycle	Tested	Passed	Pass %
Spring 2024	Fall Only	Fall Only	Fall Only
Fall 2024	48	18	38%
Total 2024	48	18	38%
Spring 2025	Fall Only	Fall Only	Fall Only
Fall 2025	66	27	41%
Total 2025	66	27	41%



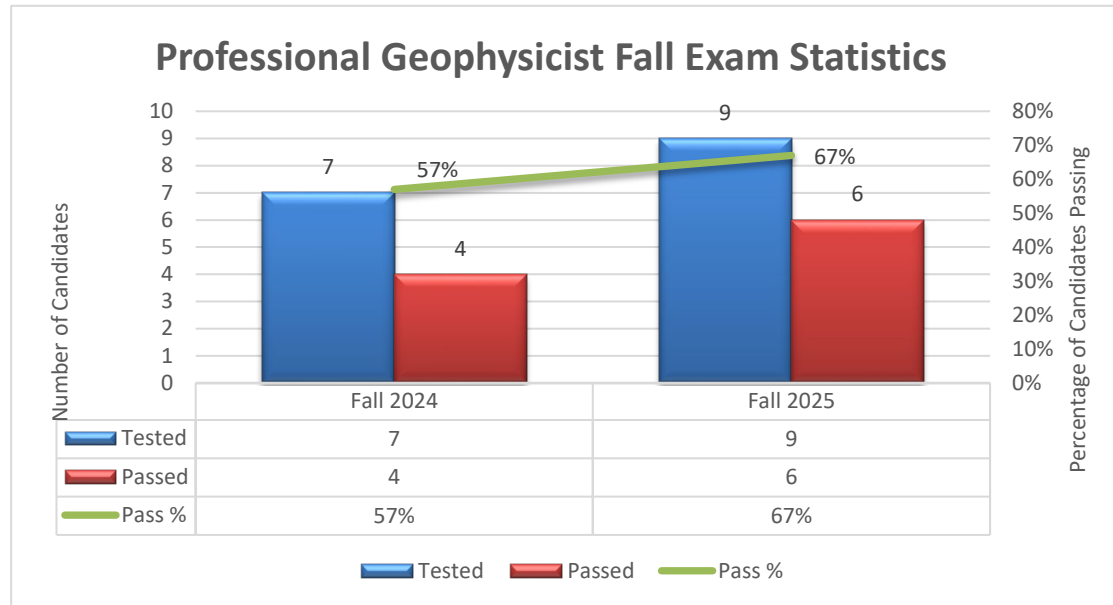
PG- Certified Hydrogeologists

Exam Cycle	Tested	Passed	Pass %
Spring 2024	Fall Only	Fall Only	Fall Only
Fall 2024	24	7	29%
Total 2024	24	7	29%
Spring 2025	Fall Only	Fall Only	Fall Only
Fall 2025	23	8	35%
Total 2025	23	8	35%



PG- Professional Geophysicist

Exam Cycle	Tested	Passed	Pass %
Spring 2024	Fall Only	Fall Only	Fall Only
Fall 2024	7	4	57%
Spring 2025	Fall Only	Fall Only	Fall Only
Fall 2025	9	6	67%



Civil Seismic Principles

Exam Cycle	Tested	Passed	Pass %
Q1 2024	651	272	42
Q2 2024	926	450	49
Q3 2024	759	350	46
Q4 2024	740	311	42
Total 2024	3076	1383	45
Q1 2025	742	365	49
Q2 2025	857	412	48
Q3 2025	802	371	46
Q4 2025	787	331	42
Total 2025	3188	1479	46
Q1 2026	769	349	45
Q2 2026	886	404	46
Q3 2026			
Q4 2026			
Total 2026			

Civil Engineering Surveying

Exam Cycle	Tested	Passed	Pass %
Q1 2024	755	536	71
Q2 2024	852	561	66
Q3 2024	587	369	63
Q4 2024	504	318	63
Total 2024	2698	1784	66
Q1 2025	567	387	68
Q2 2025	647	433	67
Q3 2025	593	368	62
Q4 2025	613	402	66
Total 2025	2420	1590	66
Q1 2026	587	376	64
Q2 2026	677	433	64
Q3 2026			
Q4 2026			
Total 2026			

CA Professional Land Surveyor

Exam Cycle	Tested	Passed	Pass %
Spring 2024	155	69	45
Fall 2024	128	42	33
Total 2024	283	111	39
Spring 2025	143	51	36
Fall 2025	157	70	45
Total 2025	300	121	40
Spring 2026	146	73	50
Fall 2026			
Total 2026			

ASBOG Fundamentals of Geology

Exam Cycle	Tested	Passed	Pass %
Spring 2024	148	95	64
Fall 2024	165	101	61
Total 2024	313	196	63
Spring 2025	147	98	67
Fall 2025	194	117	60
Total 2025	341	215	63
Spring 2026	166	95	57
Fall 2026			
Total 2026			

ASBOG Practice of Geology

Exam Cycle	Tested	Passed	Pass %
Spring 2024	58	41	71
Fall 2024	78	60	77
Total 2024	136	101	74
Spring 2025	64	48	75
Fall 2025	92	80	87
Total 2025	156	128	82
Spring 2026	63	53	84
Fall 2026			
Total 2026			

Certified Engineering Geologist

Exam Cycle	Tested	Passed	Pass %
Spring 2024	Fall	Only	
Fall 2024	48	18	38
Total 2024	48	18	38
Spring 2025	Fall	Only	
Fall 2025	66	27	41
Total 2025	66	27	41
Spring 2026			
Fall 2026			
Total 2026			

Traffic Engineer

Exam Cycle	Tested	Passed	Pass %
Spring 2024	Fall	Only	
Fall 2024	102	56	55
Total 2024	102	56	55
Spring 2025	Fall	Only	
Fall 2025	102	49	48
Total 2025	102	49	48
Spring 2026	Fall	Only	
Fall 2026			
Total 2026			

Geotechnical Engineer

Exam Cycle	Tested	Passed	Pass %
Spring 2024	Fall	Only	
Fall 2024	98	34	35
Total 2024	98	34	35
Spring 2025	Fall	Only	
Fall 2025	97	38	39
Total 2025	97	38	39
Spring 2026	Fall	Only	
Fall 2026			
Total 2026			

Geologist California Specific

Exam Cycle	Tested	Passed	Pass %
Spring 2024	111	44	40
Fall 2024	126	68	54
Total 2024	237	112	47
Spring 2025	123	54	44
Fall 2025	157	63	40
Total 2025	280	117	42
Spring 2026	130	52	40
Fall 2026			
Total 2026			

Certified Hydrogeologist

Exam Cycle	Tested	Passed	Pass %
Spring 2024	Fall	Only	
Fall 2024	24	7	29
Total 2024	24	7	29
Spring 2025	Fall	Only	
Fall 2025	23	8	35
Total 2025	23	8	35
Spring 2026			
Fall 2026			
Total 2026			

Professional Geophysicist

Exam Cycle	Tested	Passed	Pass %
Spring 2024	Fall	Only	
Fall 2024	7	4	57
Total 2024	7	4	57
Spring 2025	Fall	Only	
Fall 2025	9	6	67
Total 2025	9	6	67
Spring 2026			
Fall 2026			
Total 2026			

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 Design 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

DEADLINES

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

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

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

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

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

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

- 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)).

*Holiday schedule subject to Senate Rules committee approval.

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

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

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

- June 1

Committee meetings may resume (J.R. 61(b)(12)).
- June 15

Budget Bill must be passed by **midnight** (Art. IV, Sec. 12(c)(3)).
- June 25

Last day for a legislative measure to qualify for the Nov. 3 General Election ballot (Elections Code Sec. 9040).
- July 2

Last day for **policy committees** to meet and report bills (J.R. 61(b)(13)). **Summer Recess** begins upon adjournment of session, provided Budget Bill has passed (J.R. 51(b)(2)).
- July 3

Independence Day observed.
- Aug. 3

Legislature reconvenes from **Summer Recess** (J.R. 51(b)(2)).
- Aug. 14

Last day for **fiscal committees** to meet and report bills to the Floor (J.R. 61(b)(14)).
- Aug. 17 – 31

Floor Session only. No committee, other than conference and Rules committees, may meet for any purpose (J.R. 61(b)(15)).
- Aug. 21

Last day to **amend** on the Floor (J.R. 61(b)(16)).
- Aug. 31

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

*Holiday schedule subject to Senate Rules committee approval.

IMPORTANT DATES OCCURRING DURING FINAL RECESS

- 2026

Sept. 30

Last day for Governor to sign or veto bills passed by the Legislature before Sept. 1 and in the Governor’s possession on or after Sept. 1 (Art. IV, Sec. 10(b)(2)).
- Nov. 3

General Election.
- Nov. 30

Adjournment *sine die* at midnight (Art. IV, Sec. 3(a)).
- Dec. 7

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

Jan. 1

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

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

Status/History: 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

Location: 8/30/26 – To Enrollment

Introduced: 2/3/2026

Amended: 8/19/26, 8/21/26

Board Position: 7/16/26 – Watch (as amended 6/25/26)

Board Staff Analysis: 9/1/26

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.

Staff Recommendation: Although the bill has passed both houses of the Legislature and is being prepared to send to the Governor's Office, Staff recommends the Board continue to take a Watch position on AB 1693 as amended on August 21, 2026.

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 21, 2026

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~~. *specified, unless otherwise provided by specified provisions*. 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:

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

1 5586.5. The fact that the holder of a license who serves as a
2 qualified professional certifier, as defined in Section 66345.1 or
3 66350.1 of the Government Code, makes any false statement in a
4 certification submission pursuant to Chapter 14 (commencing with
5 Section 66345) or Chapter 15 (commencing with Section 66350)
6 of Division 1 of Title 7 of the Government Code constitutes
7 grounds for disciplinary action.

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

10 6775. The board may, upon its own initiative or upon the
11 receipt of a complaint, investigate the actions of any professional
12 engineer licensed under this chapter and make findings thereon.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

39 (i) A violation of any provision of this chapter or any other law
40 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

1 3 of the Business and Professions Code, or a professional engineer
2 licensed pursuant to Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 6700)
3 of Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code, who meets
4 both of the following conditions:

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

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

9 (b) “Retailer” means any person that is engaged in the business
10 of making retail sales—~~direct~~ *directly* to the general public.
11 “Retailer” *does not include a retail food establishment that*
12 *prepares, serves, and vends food directly to the consumer, or a*
13 *fast food restaurant, as that term is defined in Section 1474 of the*
14 *Labor Code.*

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

17 66350.2. (a) (1) ~~Notwithstanding any other law, Unless~~
18 ~~otherwise provided in Chapter 14 (commencing with Section~~
19 ~~66345),~~ a local building department shall allow, upon request from
20 an applicant for a permit for a tenant improvement relating to a
21 retailer, a qualified professional certifier to certify, at the
22 applicant’s expense, compliance with all applicable building,
23 health, and safety codes, including, but not limited to, building
24 standards approved by the California Building Standards
25 Commission and local building standards, for the tenant
26 improvement.

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

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

39 (B) A qualified professional certifier or the applicant shall
40 prepare an affidavit, under penalty of perjury, attesting that the

1 retailer for which the tenant improvement is constructed meets the
2 requirements of subdivision (b) of Section 66350.1.

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

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

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

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

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

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

30 (e) Any false statement in a certification submission made under
31 this chapter shall be grounds for disciplinary action by the
32 California Architects Board, pursuant to Section 5586.5 of the
33 Business and Professions Code, or the Board for Professional
34 Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists, pursuant to Section
35 6775 of the Business and Professions Code, as applicable.

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

39 (1) A requirement to register with the city or county prior to
40 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. 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

1 shall be temporary and not exceed the time required to complete
2 the review of a tenant improvement application.

3 SEC. 4. The Legislature finds and declares that retailers' role
4 in the state's economy and tourism industry is a matter of statewide
5 concern and is not a municipal affair as that term is used in Section
6 5 of Article XI of the California Constitution. Therefore, Section
7 3 of this act adding Chapter 15 (commencing with Section 66350)
8 to Division 1 of Title 7 of the Government Code applies to all
9 cities, including charter cities.

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

O

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: 9/1/26

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:

1 SECTION 1. Section 450.2 of the Business and Professions
2 Code is amended to read:
3 450.2. (a) In order to avoid a potential for a conflict of interest,
4 a public member of a board shall not:
5 (1) Be a current or past licensee of that board.
6 (2) Be a close family member of a licensee of that board.
7 (b) For purposes of this section, “close family member” ~~means~~
8 ~~a parent, stepparent, sibling, child by blood, adoption, or marriage,~~
9 ~~spouse, domestic partner, cohabitant, stepchild, immediate in-law,~~
10 ~~aunt, uncle, first cousin, grandparent, or grandchild.~~ *includes, but*
11 *is not limited to, a parent or a child.*
12 (c) *Each board within the department shall adopt regulations*
13 *consistent with this section that provide guidance on how to*
14 *determine whether the existence of a relationship other than a*
15 *parent-child relationship prohibits an individual from serving as*
16 *a public member of a board.*

O

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, 8/31/26 – to Governor

Location: 8/31/26 – Governor’s Office

Introduced: 2/9/2026

Board Position: 7/16/26 - Watch

Board Staff Analysis: 9/1/26

Bill Summary:

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

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

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

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

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

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.

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

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

Staff Recommendation:

Since the bill has not yet been signed or vetoed, Staff recommends the Board continue to take a Watch position on AB 1775 as amended on August 13, 2026.

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:

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

3 (b) The number of applications for expedited licenses received
4 from honorably discharged military members and military spouses,
5 or those who received a discharge solely as a result of Executive
6 Order No. 14183 issued on January 27, 2025, pursuant to Sections
7 115.4 and 115.5.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

38 886. (a) The department shall establish the Veteran's Housing
39 and Supportive Services Grant Program to help fund service

1 providers who, for at no cost, will provide housing supports for
2 ~~veterans being discharged from service.~~ *veterans.*

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

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

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

O

Presidential Documents

Executive Order 14183 of January 27, 2025

Prioritizing Military Excellence and Readiness

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

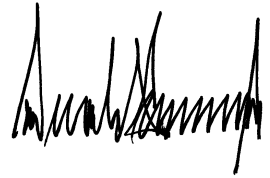
Sec. 7. *General Provisions.* (a) Nothing in this order shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect:

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

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

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

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



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: 9/1/26

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.

Staff Recommendation:

Since the bill did pass the Legislature by the deadline of August 31, 2026, there can be no further action. Therefore, no action is needed at this time.

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:

- 1 SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (1) In California there are roughly ~~7.5 billion~~ 7,500,000,000
- 4 square feet of existing professional buildings.
- 5 (2) More than 100,000,000 square feet of professional buildings
- 6 are newly constructed across ~~California~~ California, and this does

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

3 (3) The number of individuals who utilize professional buildings
4 is significant, but difficult to approximate. In 2023, California had
5 18,400,000 employed people, the highest in the United States.
6 About 88 percent of employed Californians, or roughly 16,200,000
7 people, work onsite, occupying professional space on a daily basis.
8 This number does not capture those Californians who visit or pass
9 through professional buildings to conduct tasks or business.

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

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

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

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

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

28 5510. There is in the Department of Consumer Affairs a
29 California Architects Board, which consists of 11 members.

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

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

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

38 5510.1. The Legislature finds and declares that it is the mandate
39 of the board to regulate the practice of architects and *licensed*
40 professional interior designers in the interest and for the protection

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

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

13 5514. (a) The membership of the board shall be composed of
14 11 members, ~~five~~ 5 of whom shall be architects, ~~one~~ 1 of whom
15 shall be a professional interior designer, and ~~five~~ 5 of whom shall
16 be public members.

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

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

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

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

34 5515. (a) Every person appointed shall serve for four years
35 and until the appointment and qualification of their successor or
36 until one year has elapsed since the expiration of the term for which
37 they were appointed, whichever occurs first.

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

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

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

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

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

11 5515.5. (a) Notwithstanding Section 130 or 5515, the following
12 provisions shall apply:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

35 5526. (a) The board shall adopt rules and regulations governing
36 the examination of applicants for licenses to practice architecture
37 and *licensed* professional interior design in this state.

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

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

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

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

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

14 (f) The adoption, repeal, amendment, or modification of these
15 rules and regulations shall be made in accordance with Chapter
16 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of
17 Title 2 of the Government Code.

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

20 5528. (a) The board may select and contract with necessary
21 architect and professional interior design consultants who are
22 licensed to assist it in its enforcement program on an intermittent
23 basis. The architect and professional interior design consultants
24 shall perform only those services that are necessary to carry out
25 and enforce this chapter.

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

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

31 5601. (a) Within 10 days after the beginning of every month,
32 all fees collected by the department for the month preceding, under
33 the provisions of this chapter, shall be paid into the State Treasury
34 to the credit of the California Architects Board Fund.

35 (b) The board may create subaccounts within the California
36 Architects Board Fund, as needed, for the purpose of ensuring that
37 moneys within the fund are equitably apportioned among the
38 architect and professional interior design professions and do not
39 exceed the reasonable regulatory costs of the board pursuant to
40 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

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

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

6 (e) “Licensed contractor” means a person licensed under Chapter
7 9 (commencing with Section 7000).

8 (f) “Professional engineer” means a person who practices or
9 offers to practice professional engineering as described in Section
10 6701.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

31 (A) The practice of a professional engineer, as defined in Section
32 6701, or the practice of a professional land surveyor, as defined
33 in Section 8701.

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

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

39 (D) Changes to the construction classification of the building
40 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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

12 5712. (a) A licensed professional interior designer shall use a
13 written contract when contracting to provide professional services
14 to a client pursuant to this chapter. That written contract shall be
15 executed by the licensed professional interior designer and the
16 client, or the client’s representative, prior to the licensed
17 professional interior designer commencing work, unless the client
18 knowingly states in writing that work may be commenced before
19 the contract is executed. The written contract shall include, but
20 not be limited to, all of the following items:

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

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

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

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

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

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

38 (7) A statement identifying the ownership and use of
39 professional interior instruments of service prepared by the licensed
40 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

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

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

5 (A) A fictitious name.

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

8 (C) The term “licensed professional interior designer,” the term
9 “licensed professional interior design,” or a variation of the terms
10 “licensed professional interior designer” and “licensed professional
11 interior design.”

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

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

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

25 5714. Nothing in this chapter shall preclude any activities listed
26 in the definition of a “certified interior designer” in former Section
27 5800, as it read on December 31, 2026, if that person does not
28 represent themselves or their services in any manner prohibited
29 by this chapter.

30 5715. Professional engineers registered to practice engineering
31 under Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 6700), land surveyors
32 licensed under Chapter 15 (commencing with Section 8700),
33 architects licensed under Chapter 3 (commencing with Section
34 5500), and contractors licensed under Chapter 9 (commencing
35 with Section 7000) are exempt from this chapter. However, they
36 may not use the title “licensed professional interior designer” unless
37 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

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

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

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

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

29
30 Article 5. Professional Interior Instrument of Service
31 Submissions
32

33 5725. (a) (1) All professional interior instruments of service
34 submissions intended for use in this state shall be prepared and
35 administered in accordance with standards of reasonable
36 professional skill and diligence. Care shall be taken to reflect the
37 requirements of state law and, if applicable, county and municipal
38 ordinances in the submissions. In recognition that professional
39 interior designers are required to be licensed for the protection of
40 the public health, safety, and welfare, submissions shall be of such

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

24 25 Article 6. Discipline 26

27 5730. (a) The board may, upon its own motion, and shall, upon
28 the verified complaint in writing of any person, investigate the
29 actions of any licensed professional interior designer, and may
30 suspend for a period not exceeding one year, or revoke, the license
31 of any licensed professional interior designer who is guilty of any
32 one or more of the acts or omissions constituting grounds for
33 disciplinary action under this chapter.

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

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

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

7 (c) Any proceeding for the suspension or revocation of licensure
8 under this chapter shall be conducted in accordance with the
9 provisions of Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part
10 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code. The board shall
11 have all of the powers granted in that chapter.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

30 (o) A plea or verdict of guilty or a conviction following a plea
31 of nolo contendere made to a charge of a felony is deemed to be
32 a conviction within the meaning of this article. The board may
33 order the license suspended or revoked, or may decline to issue a
34 license, when the time for appeal has elapsed, or the judgment of
35 conviction has been affirmed on appeal or when an order granting
36 probation is made suspending the imposition of sentence,
37 irrespective of a subsequent order under the provisions of Section
38 1203.4 of the Penal Code allowing the person to withdraw their
39 plea of guilty and to enter a plea of not guilty, or setting aside the

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

3 5731. (a) (1) A licensed professional interior designer shall
4 report to the board in writing within 30 days of the date the licensed
5 professional interior designer has knowledge of any civil action
6 judgment, settlement, arbitration award, or administrative action
7 resulting in a judgment, settlement, or arbitration award against
8 the licensed professional interior designer in any action alleging
9 fraud, deceit, negligence, incompetence, or recklessness by the
10 licensed professional interior designer in the practice of *licensed*
11 professional interior design if the amount or value of the judgment,
12 settlement, or arbitration award is five thousand dollars (\$5,000)
13 or greater.

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

19 (A) The title of the matter.

20 (B) The court or agency name.

21 (C) The docket number.

22 (D) The claim or file number.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

8 (B) The claim or file number.

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

11 (D) The amount paid by the insurer.

12 (E) The identity of the payee.

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

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

22 (B) The claim or file number.

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

25 (D) The amount paid by the insurer.

26 (E) The identity of the payee.

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

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

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

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

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

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

5
6 Article 7. Issuance of Licenses and Revenues
7

8 5735. (a) (1) A license issued under this chapter shall expire
9 no more than two years after the issuance date. The expiration date
10 of the original license shall be set by the board in a manner to best
11 distribute renewal procedures throughout each year.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

12 5736. (a) The fees prescribed by this article for licensed
13 professional interior designer applicants and licensed professional
14 interior designers shall be fixed by the board as follows:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

9 5801. A Certified Interior Designer may obtain a stamp from
10 the council that shall include a number that uniquely identifies and
11 bears the name of that Certified Interior Designer and identifies
12 the individual as one of the following:

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

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

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

21 5801.1. The procedure for the issuance of a stamp by the
22 council under subdivision (a) of Section 5801, including the
23 examinations recognized and required by the council, shall be
24 subject to the occupational analyses and examination validation
25 required by Section 139 every five to seven years.

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

28 5811.1. (a) (1) The council may issue a Certified Interior
29 Designer certification pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 5801
30 to any applicant who provides satisfactory evidence that they meet
31 all of the requirements of this chapter and who complies with the
32 bylaws, rules, and procedures established by the council.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

27 5811.2. (a) (1) The council may issue a professional
28 designation to a Certified Interior Designer or qualified applicant
29 who provides satisfactory evidence that they meet all of the
30 requirements of this chapter and who complies with the bylaws,
31 rules, and procedures established by the council.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

21 (c) The council may issue a professional designation to a
22 Certified Interior Designer or qualified applicant only until ____,
23 2027. On and after ____, 2027, a Certified Interior Designer with
24 an active professional designation shall not have that stamp
25 renewed.

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

27 8014. "Design professional" means a person licensed as an
28 architect pursuant to Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 5500)
29 of Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code, licensed as a
30 landscape architect pursuant to Chapter 3.5 (commencing with
31 Section 5615) of Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code,
32 licensed as a professional interior designer pursuant to Chapter
33 3.8 (commencing with Section 5700) of Division 3 of the Business
34 and Professions Code, registered as a professional engineer
35 pursuant to Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 6700) of Division
36 3 of the Business and Professions Code, or licensed as a land
37 surveyor pursuant to Chapter 15 (commencing with Section 8700)
38 of Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code.

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

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

8 However, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that
9 this act contains other costs mandated by the state, reimbursement
10 to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made
11 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division
12 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

13 *SEC. 17. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant*
14 *to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because*
15 *a local agency or school district has the authority to levy service*
16 *charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for the program or*
17 *level of service mandated by this act, within the meaning of Section*
18 *17556 of the Government Code.*

O

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; 8/31/26 – Amendments concurred in, to Engrossing & Enrollment

Location: 8/31/26/ – Engrossment and Enrollment

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: 9/1/26

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.

Staff Recommendation:

While the bill has not yet been signed or vetoed, Staff recommends the Board take a Support position on AB 1933 as amended on August 11, 2026, in order to demonstrate that the amendments reflect the Board's previous position.

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:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 8767 of the Business and Professions
- 2 Code is amended to read:
- 3 8767. If the county surveyor finds that the record of survey
- 4 complies with the examination in Section 8766, the county surveyor
- 5 shall endorse a statement on it of their examination and shall
- 6 present it to the county recorder for filing. Otherwise, the county
- 7 surveyor shall return it to the licensed land surveyor or licensed
- 8 civil engineer who presented it, together with a written statement

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

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

12 8773. (a) Except as provided in subdivision (b) of Section
13 8773.4, a person authorized to practice land surveying in this state
14 ~~or a person licensed to practice as a civil engineer in this state~~
15 shall complete, sign, stamp with their seal, and file with the county
16 surveyor of the county where the corners are situated, a written
17 record of corner establishment or restoration to be known as a
18 “corner record” for every corner established by the Survey of the
19 Public Lands of the United States, except “lost corners,” as defined
20 by the Manual of Surveying Instructions (2009), published by the
21 federal Bureau of Land Management and every accessory to such
22 corner which is found, set, reset, or used as control in any survey
23 by such authorized person.

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

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

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

35 8773.2. (a) A “corner record” submitted to the county surveyor
36 shall be examined by the county surveyor for compliance with
37 subdivision (d) of Section 8765 and Sections 8772, 8773, 8773.1,
38 and 8773.4, endorsed with a statement of their examination, and
39 filed with the county surveyor or returned to the submitting party
40 within 20 working days after receipt.

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

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

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

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

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

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

7 SEC. 4. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to
8 Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because
9 a local agency or school district has the authority to levy service
10 charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for the program or
11 level of service mandated by this act, within the meaning of Section
12 17556 of the Government Code.

O

AB 2287 (Rodriguez-D)
Contractors: disciplinary actions

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

Location: Assembly Committee on Business and Professions

Introduced: 2/19/2026

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

Board Staff Analysis: 9/1/26

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.

Staff Recommendation: Since there was no further action by the deadline of August 31, 2026, no action is required at this time.

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2287

Introduced by Assembly Member Michelle Rodriguez

February 19, 2026

An act to amend Section 7110 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to contractors.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2287, as introduced, Michelle Rodriguez. Contractors: disciplinary action.

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

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

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

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

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 7110 of the Business and Professions
- 2 Code is amended to read:
- 3 7110. (a) Willful or deliberate disregard and violation of the
- 4 building laws of the state, or of any political subdivision thereof,

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

3 (a)

4 (1) Section 8550 or 8556.

5 (b)

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

7 (c)

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

10 (d)

11 (4) The Subletting and Subcontracting Fair Practices Act
12 (Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 4100) of Part 1 of Division
13 2 of the Public Contract Code).

14 (e)

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

17 (f)

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

20 (g)

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

24 (h)

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

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

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

Status/History: Introduced 2/20/26, Amended 3/16/26, 4/15/26, 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: 9/1/26

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.

Staff Recommendation:

Since the bill was not acted on by the deadline of August 31, 2026, no action is required at this time.

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:

1 SECTION 1. Section 6787.5 is added to the Business and
2 Professions Code, to read:
3 6787.5. Notwithstanding paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of
4 Section 125.9 and Section 148, the executive officer may issue a
5 citation to a person or entity, and that person or entity shall be
6 subject to an administrative fine of not less than five hundred
7 dollars (\$500) and not more than twenty thousand dollars
8 (\$20,000) for each violation of practicing or offering to practice
9 civil, electrical, or mechanical engineering without a license issued
10 by the board pursuant to this chapter unless the person or entity
11 is otherwise authorized by law. The maximum fine for unlicensed
12 activity is separate from and not inclusive of fines for other
13 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.~~

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

O

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: 9/1/26

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.

Staff Recommendation:

No action necessary.

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:

- 1 SECTION 1. This act shall be known, and may be cited, as the
- 2 Utility Infrastructure AI Safety, Oversight, and Workforce
- 3 Protection Act.
- 4 SEC. 2. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 5 following:
- 6 (1) The electrical and gas infrastructure of the state is vital to
- 7 public safety, economic stability, and environmental sustainability.
- 8 (2) The increasing use of artificial intelligence models within
- 9 utility operations, including mapping, design, configuration,
- 10 control, maintenance, and oversight, introduces new risks to
- 11 reliability, safety, asset integrity, system-of-record accuracy, and
- 12 workforce continuity.
- 13 (3) Licensed engineers, technical specialists, and field operations
- 14 personnel possess professional judgment essential to safe utility
- 15 operations. Artificial intelligence models should complement, not
- 16 replace, that judgment.
- 17 (4) Workers in utility operations should have appropriate notice
- 18 and training opportunities when technological change affects their
- 19 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

37 (1) ~~Have relevant expertise in the operational area affected by~~
38 ~~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.

~~(e)~~

(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.

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

4 ~~(h)~~

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

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

10 8515. (a) This chapter establishes minimum safety and
11 governance standards of artificial intelligence models.

12 (b) This chapter does not limit, waive, or alter any rights,
13 remedies, or obligations under state or federal law, including the
14 National Labor Relations Act (29 U.S.C. Sec. 151 et seq.), the
15 Meyers-Milias-Brown Act (Chapter 10 (commencing with Section
16 3500) of Division 4 of Title 1 of the Government Code), the Ralph
17 C. Dills Act (Chapter 10.3 (commencing with Section 3512) of
18 Division 4 of Title 1 of the Government Code), or any collective
19 bargaining agreement, with respect to technological change,
20 staffing, workload, training, or working conditions.

21 8519. The provisions of this chapter are severable. If any
22 provision of this chapter or its application is held invalid, that
23 invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications that can
24 be given effect without the invalid provision or application.

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

O

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: 9/1/26

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.

Staff Recommendation:

No action necessary.

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:

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (a) California's residents and businesses increasingly conduct
- 4 transactions at unprecedented speeds, with private sector services
- 5 such as loan approvals, insurance applications, and consumer
- 6 purchases now processed in minutes or seconds through automated
- 7 systems. Government services have not kept pace with these
- 8 technological advances, creating a disconnect between public
- 9 expectations and the reality of government service delivery.
- 10 (b) Delays in processing professional license applications,
- 11 credential verifications, and occupational certifications impose
- 12 significant hardships on California residents. Nurses, teachers,
- 13 contractors, cosmetologists, and other professionals face prolonged
- 14 delays in receiving licenses necessary to begin or continue working,
- 15 which creates economic hardship and workforce shortages.
- 16 Businesses cannot operate while waiting for required professional
- 17 credentials, and California's economy suffers when qualified
- 18 individuals are prevented from contributing their skills due to
- 19 administrative backlogs.

(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:

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

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

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

19 (d) “State agency” has the same meaning as in Section 11000.

20 (e) “Personally identifiable information” means an individual’s
21 residential address, telephone number, social security number,
22 driver’s license number, state identification card number, passport
23 number, license plate number, vehicle registration information for
24 a motor vehicle owned or leased by the individual, and information
25 regarding an individual’s precise geolocation, as defined in Section
26 1798.140 of the Civil Code.

27 (f) “Protected health information” has the same meaning as
28 defined in Section 160.103 of Title 45 of the Code of Federal
29 Regulations.

30 (g) “Services” means both of the following:

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

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

1 12898.1. If a state agency uses an automated decision system
2 for services, not including competitive determinations, the state
3 agency shall comply with all of the following:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

20 12898.2 The Government Operations Agency, in collaboration
21 with any other state entity the agency deems appropriate, may
22 develop, adopt, and make publicly available guidance for a state
23 agency's use of automated decision systems consistent with this
24 chapter. Before issuing the guidance, the agency shall notify the
25 Joint Legislative Budget Committee of its decision to issue
26 guidance.

27 12898.3 The Government Operations Agency may provide
28 technical assistance to state agencies to comply with this chapter.

X. Rulemaking

- 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**)

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.
 - Board staff working with DCA Legal to prepare documents for submission to Office of Administrative Law (OAL).
 - Submitted for initial review by DCA Legal on March 10, 2026.

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

- 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. 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.

6. 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.bpelsq.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 <u>underline</u> . Deleted text is indicated by strikeout . Omitted text is indicated by (* * * *)
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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 certification and delivery or mailing 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 certification and delivery or mailing 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. Fall Council of Examiners (COE) Workshop and Annual Meeting October 27-31, 2026 – Hershey, PA – Choose Board Delegate (**Possible Action**)
- 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

2027 Tentative Board Meeting Calendar

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

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

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

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

STATE HOLIDAYS		NCEES AND ASBOG EVENTS	
1/1 New Year's Day	9/6 Labor Day	4/22-24	NCEES All Zone Meeting – Omaha, NE
1/18 MLK Jr. Day	11/11 Veteran's Day	8/17-8/20	NCEES Annual Meeting – Verona, NY
2/15 President's Day	11/25-26 Thanksgiving	10/25-30	ASBOG Annual Meeting – Biloxi, MS
3/31 Cesar Chavez Day	12/25 Christmas		
5/31 Memorial Day			
7/4 Independence Day			

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

XII. President’s Report/Board Member Activities

XIII. Approval of July 16, 2026, Meeting Minutes (Possible Action)

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

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

Thursday, July 16, 2026

Board Members Present: President Frank Ruffino; Vice-President Desirea Haggard; Fel Amistad; Alireza Asgari; Rossana D'Antonio; Michael Hartley; Guillermo Martinez; Betsy Mathieson, Fermin Villegas; Cliff Waldeck; and Christina Wong

Board Members Absent: Wilfredo Sanchez

Board Staff Present: Ric Moore (Executive Officer); Tiffany Criswell (Assistant Executive Officer); Brook Grabowski (Enforcement Program Manager); Dawn Hall (Administrative Services Manager); Josh Goodwin (Senior Registrar Geologist), Natalie King (Senior Registrar Civil Engineer); Bruce Locken (Senior Registrar Mechanical Engineer); Dallas Sweeney (Senior Registrar Land Surveyor); Francesca Domingo LaFleur (Enforcement Analyst); Christopher Pirrone (Legal Counsel) and Jennifer Robbins (Regulatory Counsel)

I. Roll Call to Establish a Quorum

President Ruffino called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. and a quorum was established.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

III. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

There were no Public Comments for Items Not on the Agenda

IV. Administration

A. Fiscal Year 2025/26 Budget Report

Ms. Hall presented the financial report noting a slight increase in expenses. Clarification on the revenue and expenses were provided as they related specifically to revenue projections in the Fund Condition. It was noted that surplus is retained in the fund and carried over to subsequent fiscal years. The Board expects minor increases in expenses in response to the return to office mandate as Board staff will be working in the office four days a week.

V. Enforcement

A. Enforcement Statistical Reports

1. Fiscal Year 2025/26 Update

Ms. Grabowski reported a focus on case closure, with investigations opened continuing to rise. It was noted that the average days for investigations have decreased.

VI. Exams/Licensing

A. Examination/Licensing Updates

There were no examination or licensing updates at this time.

VII. Legislation

A. 2026 Legislative Calendar

Mr. Moore noted that the legislature is in recess until Monday, August 3, 2026.

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

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

MOTION: Ms. Mathieson and Ms. Wong moved to continue to take a watch position on AB 1693 as amended on June 25, 2026.
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VOTE: 11-0, Motion Carried

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------|
| • President Ruffino | Yes |
| • Vice-President Haggard | Yes |
| • Fel Amistad | Yes |
| • Alireza Asgari | Yes |
| • Rossana D'Antonio | Yes |
| • Michael Hartley | Yes |
| • Guillermo Martinez | Yes |
| • Betsy Mathieson | Yes |
| • Wilfredo Sanchez | Absent |
| • Fermin Villegas | Yes |
| • Cliff Waldeck | Yes |
| • Christina Wong | Yes |

1. AB 1767 – Public members of boards: conflict of interest

MOTION: Ms. Mathieson and Dr. Amistad moved to continue to take a watch position on AB 1767 as amended on June 23, 2026.

VOTE: 11-0, Motion Carried

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| • President Ruffino | Yes |
| • Vice-President Haggard | Yes |
| • Fel Amistad | Yes |
| • Alireza Asgari | Yes |
| • Rossana D'Antonio | Yes |
| • Michael Hartley | Yes |
| • Guillermo Martinez | Yes |

- Betsy Mathieson Yes
- Wilfredo Sanchez Absent
- Fermin Villegas Yes
- Cliff Waldeck Yes
- Christina Wong Yes

2. AB 1775 – Veterans

MOTION: Mr. Hartley and Dr. Amistad moved to continue to take a watch position on AB 1775 as amended on May 18, 2026.

VOTE: 11-0, Motion Carried

- President Ruffino Yes
- Vice-President Haggard Yes
- Fel Amistad Yes
- Alireza Asgari Yes
- Rossana D'Antonio Yes
- Michael Hartley Yes
- Guillermo Martinez Yes
- Betsy Mathieson Yes
- Wilfredo Sanchez Absent
- Fermin Villegas Yes
- Cliff Waldeck Yes
- Christina Wong Yes

3. AB 1796 – Licensed Professional Interior Designer Act

MOTION: Mr. Hartley and Ms. D'Antonio moved to oppose AB 1796 as amended on June 23, 2026.

VOTE: 11-0, Motion Carried

- President Ruffino Yes
- Vice-President Haggard Yes
- Fel Amistad Yes
- Alireza Asgari Yes
- Rossana D'Antonio Yes
- Michael Hartley Yes
- Guillermo Martinez Yes
- Betsy Mathieson Yes
- Wilfredo Sanchez Absent
- Fermin Villegas Yes
- Cliff Waldeck Yes
- Christina Wong Yes

4. AB 1933 – Land surveyors: records of survey

MOTION: Mr. Hartley and Ms. Wong moved to oppose AB 1933 as amended June 18, 2026, unless amended to remove ‘person licensed to practice as a civil engineer’ from Section 8773 (a) and Section 8773 (c) and further authorized staff to change the Board’s position to Support if the requested amendments were made.

VOTE: 11-0, Motion Carried

- President Ruffino Yes
- Vice-President Haggard Yes
- Fel Amistad Yes
- Alireza Asgari Yes
- Rossana D’Antonio Yes
- Michael Hartley Yes
- Guillermo Martinez Yes
- Betsy Mathieson Yes
- Wilfredo Sanchez Absent
- Fermin Villegas Yes
- Cliff Waldeck Yes
- Christina Wong Yes

5. AB 2287 – Contractors: disciplinary action

There was no action required on AB 2287.

6. AB 2435 – Land Surveyors

MOTION: Mr. Hartley and Ms. Wong made a motion to support AB 2435 as amended June 10, 2026.

VOTE: 11-0, Motion Carried

- President Ruffino Yes
- Vice-President Haggard Yes
- Fel Amistad Yes
- Alireza Asgari Yes
- Rossana D’Antonio Yes
- Michael Hartley Yes
- Guillermo Martinez Yes
- Betsy Mathieson Yes
- Wilfredo Sanchez Absent
- Fermin Villegas Yes
- Cliff Waldeck Yes
- Christina Wong Yes

7. Senate Bill (SB) 1011 – Energy: Utility Infrastructure AI Safety, Oversight, and Workforce Protection Act
There was no action required on SB 1011.

8. SB 1248 – State agencies: automated decision systems

MOTION: Mr. Hartley and Dr. Amistad made a motion to maintain a watch position on SB 1248.

VOTE: 11-0, Motion Carried

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------|
| • President Ruffino | Yes |
| • Vice-President Haggard | Yes |
| • Fel Amistad | Yes |
| • Alireza Asgari | Yes |
| • Rossana D'Antonio | Yes |
| • Michael Hartley | Yes |
| • Guillermo Martinez | Yes |
| • Betsy Mathieson | Yes |
| • Wilfredo Sanchez | Absent |
| • Fermin Villegas | Yes |
| • Cliff Waldeck | Yes |
| • Christina Wong | Yes |

VIII. Rulemaking Status Report

A. Pending Rulemaking Efforts – Status Report

Mr. Moore reported Board staff continue to work on pending regulations, including amendments for gender-neutral language and clarifying disciplinary orders.

During Public Comment, Krystinne Mica, Executive Director of the Structural Engineers Association of California (SEAOC), thanked the Board for including in the rulemaking efforts the request SEAOC made regarding adding gender neutral language to the Board's regulations.

B. Consideration of Rulemaking Proposal

1. Discussion to Initiate Section 100 Rulemaking to Amend California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Section 3022, Professional Geologist Educational and Experience Requirements (**Possible Action**)

MOTION: Ms. Wong and Ms. Mathieson moved to initiate a rulemaking to amend California Code of Regulations, Title 16, section 3022 as proposed and authorize the Executive Officer to take all steps necessary to pursue and complete the rulemaking through the Title 1, CCR section 100 rulemaking process, make any technical or non-substantive changes to the text and package as needed throughout the process, and adopt the proposed regulations at section 3022.

VOTE: 11-0, Motion Carried

- President Ruffino Yes
- Vice-President Haggard Yes
- Fel Amistad Yes
- Alireza Asgari Yes
- Rossana D'Antonio Yes
- Michael Hartley Yes
- Guillermo Martinez Yes
- Betsy Mathieson Yes
- Wilfredo Sanchez Absent
- Fermin Villegas Yes
- Cliff Waldeck Yes
- Christina Wong Yes

2. Discussion to Initiate Section 100 Rulemaking to Amend California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Section 419, Disciplinary Orders Section
(Possible Action)

MOTION: Ms. Wong and Dr. Amistad moved to initiate a rulemaking to amend California Code of Regulations, Title 16, section 419 as proposed and authorize the Executive Officer to take all steps necessary to pursue and complete the rulemaking through the Title 1, CCR section 100 rulemaking process, make any technical or non-substantive changes to the text and package as needed throughout the process and adopt the proposed regulations at section 419.
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VOTE: 11-0, Motion Carried

- President Ruffino Yes
- Vice-President Haggard Yes
- Fel Amistad Yes
- Alireza Asgari Yes
- Rossana D'Antonio Yes
- Michael Hartley Yes
- Guillermo Martinez Yes
- Betsy Mathieson Yes
- Wilfredo Sanchez Absent
- Fermin Villegas Yes
- Cliff Waldeck Yes
- Christina Wong Yes

IX. Executive Officer's Report

A. Personnel

Mr. Moore noted there is nothing more to report, there continues to be one vacant position in Administrative Services unit.

B. Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG)

Mr. Moore reported the annual meeting for ASBOG will be held this fall and will be discussed at the September 2026 Board meeting.

C. National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES)

1. Annual Meeting August 17-21, 2026, Henderson, NV – Discussion of Motions (**Possible Action**)

Mr. Moore noted the Board materials include motions for the upcoming NCEES Annual Meeting and brought several motions forward for the Board to consider.

During Public Comment, Carl Josephson, emeritus member of the Board and member of SEAOC, discussed NCEES Finance Motion 8 and expressed support for a rational, systematic approach to fee changes. Mr. Josephson noted that every time exam fees are discussed, it generates lengthy debate—even for small increments. He emphasized that the proposed method for adjusting fees makes sense, as it would reduce unnecessary controversy and provide predictability. He also acknowledged differing opinions about whether exams should be free or generate revenue but ultimately endorsed the board’s approach as reasonable.

In addition, Mr. Josephson provided commentary on motions from the Structural Practice Task Force. He summarized the purpose of a motion to define “significant structures,” explaining that several states require such structures to be designed by licensed structural engineers—most notably on the West Coast, surrounding California. He clarified that California has not adopted this requirement, but the motion would provide a model definition for states wishing to do so. He described this as a positive first step, offering guidance for future adoption if California chooses to pursue similar legislation.

Mr. Josephson also explained why California has not yet adopted the significant structures requirement: it would require formal legislation, and the board has preferred to wait for a bill before taking an official position. He highlighted that the model definition is based on established standards (such as ASCE 7) and risk categories, ensuring that only structures posing substantial risk to large numbers of people would be affected.

MOTION: Mr. Hartley and Ms. Mathieson moved to recommend a support position on NCEES Finance Motion 8, barring any unforeseen amendments.
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VOTE: 11-0, Motion Carried

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

2. Update on Outreach Efforts

Mr. Moore reviewed various Board staff outreach efforts including in-person and virtual presentations and social media postings.

During Public Comment, Mr. Andrew Johnson from the California Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE-CA) thanked the Board, Mr. Moore, and Ms. Natalie King, Senior Registrar, for attending NSPE-CA meetings and presentations to students pursuing licensure.

X. President's Report/Board Member Activities

Mr. Ruffino introduced and welcomed Ms. Jennifer Robbins, Legal Counsel who advises the Board on policy and regulations. In addition, Mr. Ruffino congratulated Ms. D'Antonio, who has been elected as national President of the American Society of Civil Engineers for the 2027-2028 term.

Mr. Martinez and Dr. Asgari have both been reappointed to the Board.

XI. Approval of Meeting Minutes (Possible Action)

MOTION: Dr. Amistad and Mr. Martinez moved to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2026 Board meeting.

VOTE: 11-0, Motion Carried

- President Ruffino Yes
- Vice-President Haggard Yes
- Fel Amistad Yes
- Alireza Asgari Yes
- Rossana D'Antonio Yes
- Michael Hartley Yes
- Guillermo Martinez Yes
- Betsy Mathieson Yes
- Wilfredo Sanchez Absent

- | | |
|-------------------|-----|
| • Fermin Villegas | Yes |
| • Cliff Waldeck | Yes |
| • Christina Wong | Yes |

XII. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 12:38 p.m.

PUBLIC PRESENT

William Estepa, ACEC-CA

Krystinne Mica, SEAOC

Andrew Johnson, NSPE-CA

DRAFT

XIV. Adjourn
