
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

SB 1057 (Becker) - Licensing: certified nurse assistants and home health aides

Version: March 25, 2026
Urgency: No
Hearing Date: April 20, 2026

Policy Vote: HEALTH 9 - 2
Mandate: Yes
Consultant: Agnes Lee

Bill Summary: SB 1057 would revise and recast existing law provisions governing the training and certification of certified nurse assistants and home health aides.

Fiscal Impact: Unknown potential costs for the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) for state administration (Licensing and Certification Program Fund).

Background: Current law provides for the certification of certified nurse assistants (CNAs) and home health aides (HHAs) by the CDPH, and establishes minimum qualifications and training requirements for CNAs and HHAs. Applicants for both CNA and HHA certificates must be at least 16 years old and have completed a CDPH-approved training program.

Beyond completing the training program and passing the competency evaluation examination, applicants for CNA and HHA certificates must obtain criminal record clearance from CDPH's Criminal Background Section. This process includes an applicant's disclosure of their criminal history and the submission of fingerprints to the Department of Justice (DOJ). The DOJ provides the applicant's criminal records to CDPH, which reviews the information and examines supporting documentation from courts and law enforcement as necessary. Decisions are made on a case-by-case basis that consider the nature and severity of the crime, the amount of time since the most recent conviction, and any evidence of rehabilitation. CNA and HHA licenses must be renewed every two years and require disclosure of any criminal conviction or health-related licensing, certification, or disciplinary authority action.

Proposed Law: Specific provisions of the bill would:

- Revise and recast a portion of existing law governing the training and certification of CNAs and HHAs, including provisions related to the denial of an application for certification or training, or the suspension or revocation of certification, licensure, or renewal.
- Permit CDPH to deny an application for, or deny a training and examination application for, a CNA/HHA on the grounds that the applicant has been convicted of a crime or has been subject to formal discipline if either:
 - The applicant has been convicted of a crime within the preceding seven years from the date of the application that is directly and adversely related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a CNA/HHA, regardless of whether the

applicant was incarcerated for that crime or the applicant was convicted of a serious felony, as specified, or a sex crime for which registration is required; or,

- The applicant has been subjected to formal discipline by CDPH or a licensing board in or outside California within the preceding seven years from the date of application based on professional misconduct that would have been cause for discipline, and that is directly and adversely related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a certified nurse assistant. The bill would prohibit the prior disciplinary action from being the basis for denial of a training and examination application or certificate if the basis for that disciplinary action was a conviction that has been dismissed, as specified. The bill would permit formal discipline that occurred earlier than seven years preceding the date of the application to be grounds for denial of a certificate only if the formal discipline was for conduct that would have constituted an act of sexual abuse, misconduct, or relations with a patient, as specified.
- Prohibit a person being denied a CNA/HHA certificate or training and examination application on the basis that the person has been convicted of a crime, or on the basis of acts underlying a conviction for a crime, if that person has obtained a certificate of rehabilitation, has been granted clemency or a pardon by a state or federal executive, or has made a showing of good character and rehabilitation, as determined by CDPH.
- Prohibit a person being denied a CNA/HHA certificate or training and examination application on the basis of any conviction, or on the basis of the acts underlying the conviction, that have been dismissed or expunged; and require the applicant who has a conviction that has been dismissed to provide proof of that, if it is not reflected on the report furnished by the DOJ.
- Prohibit a person from being denied a CNA/HHA certificate or training and examination application on the basis of an arrest that resulted in a disposition other than a conviction, including an arrest that resulted in an infraction, a citation, diversion, deferred entry of judgment, or a juvenile adjudication.
- Permit CDPH to deny a CNA/HHA certificate or training and examination application on the grounds that the applicant knowingly made a false statement of fact that is required to be revealed in the application; and prohibit CDPH from denying a CNA/HHA certificate or training and examination application based solely on an applicant's failure to disclose a fact that would not have been cause for denial had it been disclosed.
- Require CDPH to follow specified procedures in requesting or acting on an applicant's criminal history information.