
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

SB 1302 (Wahab) - Nursing

Version: April 23, 2026

Urgency: No

Hearing Date: May 11, 2026

Policy Vote: B., P. & E.D. 10 - 0

Mandate: No

Consultant: Janelle Miyashiro

Bill Summary: SB 1302 is the sunset bill for the Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) and is intended to make changes recommended during the joint sunset review of the board.

Fiscal Impact: The 2026-27 Governor's Budget provides approximately \$64.53 million (BRN Fund) and 219.8 positions to support the continued operation of the BRN's licensing and enforcement activities

BRN does not anticipate any additional fiscal impacts.

Background: In March 2026, the Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee and the Assembly Committee on Business and Professions (Committees) began their comprehensive sunset review oversight of 10 regulatory entities, including BRN. The Committees conducted three oversight hearings. This bill and the accompanying sunset bills are intended to implement legislative changes as recommended by staff of the Committees, and which are reflected in the Background Papers prepared by Committee staff for each agency and program reviewed this year.

Proposed Law:

- Requires the BRN to make a list of approved schools of nursing available on its website.
- Revises the requirement for the BRN to meet in northern and southern California and allows the BRN to meet in appropriate locations that are necessary to transact its business.
- Requires the BRN's inspection criteria to be consistent with the 2020 Nursing Education Approved Guidelines established by the National Council of State Board of Nursing (NCSBN) or its successor as approved by the BRN.
- Deletes the requirement for licensure examinations to be written and the authorization for the BRN to offer a supplemental oral or practical examination.
- Combines the renewal and furnishing application for certified nurse midwives, and nurse practitioners.
- Replaces the percentage requirement for clinical experience with an hourly requirement during a declared state of emergency, as specified.

- Requires any clinical practice hours that are not required to be in direct patient care and are provided using simulation experience to be based on the best practices published by the International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning, the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, the Society for Simulation in Healthcare, or equivalent standards approved by the BRN.
- Creates a remediation process for nursing education program directors and makes conforming changes.
- Allows the transition to practice qualification for NPs to be completed in another state, in addition to California.
- Repeals outdated references to fee floors, as specified.
- Extends the operations of the BRN and its authority to appoint an executive officer by four years, until January 1, 2031.
- Makes additional technical and clarifying changes.

Related Legislation: SB 1303 (Wahab, 2026) is the California Board of Naturopathic Medicine sunset bill. SB 1303 is pending in this committee.

SB 1304 (Wahab, 2026) is the Board of Respiratory Care sunset bill. SB 1304 is pending in this committee.

SB 1363 (Wahab, 2026) is the State Board of Barbering and Cosmetology sunset bill. SB 1363 is pending in this committee.

SB 1368 (Wahab, 2026) is the Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists and Hearing Aid Dispensers Board sunset bill. SB 1368 is pending in this committee.

AB 2771 (Committee on Business and Professions, 2026) is the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education sunset bill. AB 2771 is pending in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

AB 2772 (Committee on Business and Professions, 2026) is the California Council for Interior Design Certification sunset bill. AB 2772 is pending in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

AB 2773 (Committee on Business and Professions, 2026) is the California Board of Occupational Therapy sunset bill. AB 2773 is pending in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

AB 2774 (Committee on Business and Professions, 2026) is the Physical Therapy Board of California sunset bill. AB 2774 is pending in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

AB 2775 (Committee on Business and Professions, 2026) is the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners sunset bill. AB 2775 is pending in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

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