

Date of Hearing: June 30, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS

Marc Berman, Chair

SB 1445 (Committee on Business, Professions and Economic Development) – As Amended June 17, 2026

**SENATE VOTE:** 36-0

**SUBJECT:** Healing arts

**SUMMARY:** Makes numerous technical and clarifying changes to provisions of existing law relating to various licensing programs under the Department of Consumer Affairs.

**EXISTING LAW:**

- 1) Establishes the DCA within the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency. (Business and Professions Code (BPC) § 100)
- 2) Enumerates various boards, bureaus, committees, commissions, and programs within the DCA's jurisdiction. (BPC § 101)
- 3) Establishes the Department of Real Estate (DRE) within the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency to administer and enforce the Real Estate Law. (BPC §§ 10000 *et seq.*)
- 4) Defines "board" as also inclusive of "bureau," "commission," "committee," "department," "division," "examining committee," "program," and "agency." (BPC § 22)
- 5) Provides that each board within the DCA exists as a separate unit, and has the functions of setting standards, holding meetings, conducting examinations, reviewing applications, conducting investigations of violations of laws under its jurisdiction, issuing citations and holding hearings for the revocation of licenses, and the imposing of penalties following those hearings, insofar as those powers are given by statute to each respective board. (BPC § 108)
- 6) Requires boards within the DCA to expedite the licensure process and waive any associated fees for an individual applicant who holds a current license in another state and who is married to, or in a domestic partnership or other legal union with, an active duty member of the Armed Forces of the United States who is assigned to a duty station in California under official active duty military orders. (BPC § 115.5)
- 7) Requires boards within the DCA to issue a temporary license to an applicant who is married to, or in a domestic partnership or other legal union with, an active duty member of the Armed Forces of the United States who is assigned to a duty station in California under official active duty military orders. (BPC § 115.6)
- 8) Conforms state law with federal requirements enabling the portability of professional licenses for servicemembers and military spouses under the DCA and DRE. (BPC § 115.10)

- 9) Establishes the Dental Board of California (DBC) within the DCA to administer and enforce the Dental Practice Act. (BPC §§ 1600 *et seq.*)
- 10) Establishes the requirements for the Licensure by Portfolio pathway, wherein an applicant completes the written examination of the National Board Dental Examination of the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations and additional examinations after furnishing evidence of having met specified dental education requirements, along with other application requirements. (BPC § 1628)
- 11) Requires the DBC to conduct a review of the portfolio examination, a recently eliminated pathway to licensure wherein an applicant built a portfolio of completed clinical experiences and clinical competency examinations in lieu of taking a single examination to demonstrate their competence to practice dentistry. (BPC § 1632.6)
- 12) Establishes various fees charged to licensees of the DBC. (BPC § 1724)
- 13) Authorizes a dental assistant to perform specified duties under the general supervision and pursuant to the order, control, and full professional responsibility of a licensed dentist. (BPC § 1750.1)
- 14) Establishes the California Board of Optometry (CBO) within the DCA for the licensure and regulation of optometrists, registered dispensing opticians (RDOs), contact lens dispensers, spectacle lens dispensers, and nonresident contact lens dispensers under the Optometry Practice Act. (BPC §§ 3000 *et seq.*)
- 15) Establishes fees charged for the registration of nonresident ophthalmic lens dispensers by the CBO. (BPC § 2564.79)
- 16) Establishes the California State Board of Pharmacy (BOP) to administer and enforce the Pharmacy Law. (BPC §§ 4000 *et seq.*)
- 17) Authorizes the BOP to deny an application for licensure if the applicant has been convicted of a crime involving fraud in violation of state or federal laws related to health care or a crime involving financial identify [*sic*] theft. (BPC § 4202.6)
- 18) Establishes the California Veterinary Medical Board (VMB) within the DCA to provide for the regulation of veterinary medicine under the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act. (BPC §§ 4800 *et seq.*)
- 19) Establishes the Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS) within the DCA to license and regulate mental health professionals under the Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist Act, the Educational Psychologist Practice Act, the Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor Act, and the Clinical Social Worker Practice Act. (BPC §§ 4980 *et seq.*)
- 20) Establishes the Bureau of Security and Investigative Services (BSIS) within the DCA to regulate private patrol and security officers, private investigators, alarm companies, locksmiths, and repossessors. (BPC §§ 7580 *et seq.*)

- 21) Establishes the Contractors State License Board (CSLB) within the DCA to implement and enforce the Contractors State License Law, which includes the licensing and regulation of contractors and home improvement salespersons. (BPC §§ 7000 *et seq.*)
- 22) Establishes the Bureau of Automotive Repair (BAR) within the DCA to enforce and administer the Automotive Repair Act. (BPC §§ 9880 *et seq.* )
- 23) Establishes the Bureau of Household Goods and Services (BHGS) within the DCA to enforce and administer the Home Furnishings and Thermal Insulation Act and the Household Movers Act, among other laws. (BPC §§ 9810 *et seq.*)

**THIS BILL:**

- 1) Defines terms and makes minor and clarifying changes to provisions of law requiring boards within the DCA and the DRE to register applicants who are licensed in another state and have relocated to California because of military orders.
- 2) Repeals the requirement for the DBC to conduct a review of the portfolio examination, which has been eliminated.
- 3) Revises fees charged by the CBO for the registration of nonresident ophthalmic lens dispensers.
- 4) Corrects a typo in the Pharmacy Law.
- 5) Repeals obsolete language related to the VMB's registration and oversight of veterinary technicians.
- 6) Updates erroneous cross-references and makes various minor and technical changes to provisions of the Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist Act and the Clinical Social Worker Practice Act.
- 7) Repeals a requirement that the director of DCA furnish copies of the licensing law and rules and regulations to specified applicants and licensees under the BSIS.
- 8) Updates erroneous cross-references and makes technical changes to the Contractors State License Law.
- 9) Clarifies that an automotive repair dealer may provide a written estimate in an electronic format.
- 10) Requires registrants for a fictitious name permit to include the signer's printed name and title.
- 11) Makes technical changes and corrections in the Home Furnishings and Thermal Insulation Act and the Household Movers Act.

**FISCAL EFFECT:** Pursuant to Senate Rule 28.8, negligible state costs.

**COMMENTS:**

**Purpose.** This bill is the annual “committee bill” authored by the Senate Committee on Business, Professions, and Economic Development, which is intended to consolidate a number of noncontroversial provisions related to various regulatory programs and professions governed by the Business and Professions Code. Consolidating the provisions in one bill aims to relieve the various licensing boards, bureaus, professions, and other regulatory agencies from the necessity and burden of having separate measures for a number of non-controversial revisions. Many of the provisions of this bill are minor, technical, and updating changes.

**Background.** As of the DCA’s most recent annual report to the Legislature, the DCA consists of 36 distinct regulatory entities, including 27 boards, seven bureaus, one commission, and one program. In total, the DCA oversees more than 3.2 million licensees across more than 280 license types falling within the respective jurisdiction of each board, bureau, or other licensing entity. These license types range from physicians licensed by the Medical Board of California to hairstylists licensed by the California Board of Barbering and Cosmetology.

This bill makes various changes to acts administered and enforced by boards and bureaus under the DCA. For example, this bill would update references to entities that have recently been renamed, conform various laws to recently enacted legislation, and make additional technical changes to clarify or streamline existing law. Most of these changes were recommended by the DCA or a specific program within the DCA.

**Prior Related Legislation.** SB 861 (Committee on Business, Professions and Economic Development), Chapter 592, Statutes of 2025 was the prior year’s annual committee bill.

ACR 260 (Low), Res. Chapter 190, Statutes of 2018 encouraged the Legislature to engage in a coordinated effort to revise existing statutes and introduce new legislation with inclusive language using gender-neutral pronouns or reusing nouns to avoid the use of gendered pronouns.

**ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT:**

The *Dental Board of California* (DBC) supports this bill, writing: “This legislation directly aligns with our commitment to public protection, ensuring that the Board can maintain rigorous licensing standards and enforce the Dental Practice Act in a modern, streamlined manner.”

**ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION:**

There is no opposition on file.

**REGISTERED SUPPORT:**

Dental Board of California

**REGISTERED OPPOSITION:**

None on file

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