Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bill No: SB 1445
Author: Committee on Business, Professions and Economic Development
Amended: 8/20/26
Vote: 21

SENATE BUS., PROF. & ECON. DEV. COMMITTEE: 9-0, 4/20/26
AYES: Wahab, Choi, Archuleta, Caballero, Grayson, Niello, Smallwood-Cuevas, Strickland, Umberg
NO VOTE RECORDED: Arreguín, Menjivar

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

SENATE FLOOR: 36-0, 5/7/26 (Consent)
AYES: Allen, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Choi, Cortese, Dahle, Durazo, Grayson, Hurtado, Jones, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Ochoa Bogh, Padilla, Pérez, Reyes, Richardson, Rubio, Seyarto, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern, Strickland, Umberg, Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener
NO VOTE RECORDED: Alvarado-Gil, Gonzalez, Grove, Niello

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 78-0, 8/25/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Healing arts

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill makes numerous technical and clarifying statutory updates related to programs within the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA), and updates the information required from an individual who signs a fictitious business name statement, as specified.

Assembly Amendments make technical changes and address a chaptering conflict.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes, until January 1, 2026, the Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS) to administer the Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT) Act, the Licensed Educational Psychologist (LEP) Practice Act, the Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) Practice Act, and the Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC) Act. (Business & Professions Code (BPC) § 4990)

2) Requires a coroner to file a report with the Medical Board of California (MBC), the Osteopathic Medical Board of California (OMBC), the Podiatric Medical Board of California (PBC), or the Physician Assistant Board of California (PAB), when they receive information that is based on the findings reached by a board-certified or board-eligible pathologist indicating that a death may be the result of a physician and surgeon, podiatrist, or physician assistant's gross negligence or incompetence, as specified. (BPC § 802.5)

3) Establishes the Dental Board of California (DBC) to license and regulate dentists; registered dental assistants and registered dental assistants in extended functions (BPC § 1601.1).

4) Authorizes the California State Board of Optometry to charge fees prescribed in connection with the registration of nonresident ophthalmic lens dispensers according to an established schedule. (BPC § 2564.79)

5) Establishes the Contractors State License Board (CSLB) to implement and enforce the License Law, which includes the licensing and regulation of contractors and home improvement salespersons. (BPC) § 7000 et seq.)

6) Requires a qualified manager certificate (for private security services) to be prominently displayed below the branch office license at the principal place of business, and if the principal place of business is outside of this state, then the certificate of the qualified manager must be posted below the branch office certificate at each branch office. (BPC § 7582.22)

7) Provides for the regulation of automotive repair under the Automotive Repair Act, which outlines the licensure requirements, scope of practice, and responsibilities of individuals who, for compensation, engage in the business of repairing or diagnosing malfunctions of motor vehicles. (BPC §§ 9880 *et seq.*)

8) Requires a registrant signature on a fictitious business name statement to declare that all the information in the fictitious business name statement is true and correct, and a registrant who declares the information is true and the registrant knows it to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor, as specified. (BPC § 17913(c))

This bill:

1) Requires a county medical examiner, in addition to a county coroner, to provide a report to the MBC, the OMBC, the PMBC, or the PAB when a death may be the result of gross negligence or incompetence of a respective licensee of that regulatory entity.

2) Repeals outdated references to a portfolio examination that is no longer offered by the DBC.

3) Reduces the application and registration fee by $150 and the renewal fee by $100 for a nonresident ophthalmic lens dispenser applicant.

4) Clarifies the requirement for supervision assessment via two-way video conferencing is only necessary when supervision is conducted via two-way real time video conferencing for gaining experience, as specified, for LPCC, LMFT and LCSW.

5) 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.

6) Repeals the requirement for the director of the DCA to furnish one copy of the licensing laws and rules and regulations to any applicant or licensee of the Bureau of Security and Investigative Services without charge, and the requirement to charge a fee equivalent to the cost of producing such laws, rules, and regulations, manuals, or guides plus sales tax for any additional copy requested.

7) Deletes an outdated statutory requirement for the CSLB to conduct a study of judgments, arbitration awards, and settlements that were the result of claims for construction defects for rental residential units and submit the results to the

Legislature, as specified.

8) Reduces the number of members on the Construction Management Education Account Advisory Committee from 11 to 10 and updates references to two previously separate entities, Engineering and Utility Contractors Association and the Engineering Contractors Association which is now a single entity, *the Engineering and Utility Contractors Association d.b.a. United Contractors*.

9) Requires the registrant who signs a fictitious business name statement to include the signer's printed name and the title which authorizes them to sign the statement.

10) Makes numerous additional technical, conforming, and clarifying changes.

Background

This bill makes various changes to acts administered and enforced by boards and bureaus under the DCA, for example, updates include the following noted below.

Dental Board of California (DBC). The DBC is responsible for the licensure and regulation of dentists and dental assistants. This bill removes outdated references to the licensure by portfolio pathway which is no longer available.

Reporting Requirements to the Medical Board of California (MBC). Because not every county utilizes the services of a "coroner", this bill includes a "county medical examiner" to make the required reports when they receive information that a death may be the result of a licensee, to the appropriate regulatory board.

Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS). In 2022, the BBS sponsored AB 1758 (Aguiar-Curry, Chapter 204, Statutes of 2022), which permitted supervision to take place via videoconferencing in all settings, not just in exempt settings. This bill updates current law to clarify that the assessment for the appropriateness of video-conferencing supervision is only necessary if the supervision is conducted via videoconferencing.

Contractors State License Board (CSLB). This bill deletes an obsolete reference to a study conducted by the CSLB. The CSLB is required to establish an advisory committee whose purpose is to recommend grant awards for qualified public postsecondary education institutions. There are currently 11 members on the committee. Two association members have merged into one organization. This bill

reduces the committee membership to 10 and reflects the new name of the merged association.

Bureau of Security and Investigative Services (BSIS). This bill revises current law to clarify that a qualified manager license is to be posted below the private patrol operator's license, which is required to be posted in any principal place of business, including a branch office. Existing law requires the BSIS to furnish copies of licensing laws, rules, and regulations to its licensing population. This bill removes the unnecessary requirement to furnish a hard copy of the rules, regulations, and laws.

Bureau of Household Goods and Services (BHGS). BHGS is responsible for oversight of the Electronic and Appliance Repair Law, the Home Furnishings and Thermal Insulation Act, and the Household Movers Act. This bill replaces additional outdated references to copartnership and replaces them with the correct term, "partnership".

Bureau of Automotive Repair (BAR). The Automotive Repair Act requires that automotive repair dealers provide customers with written estimates that must be authorized by the customer prior to performing any work on the vehicle and invoices for the repairs performed. This bill updates current law to clarify that written estimates may be delivered electronically, as well.

Board of Optometry (BOO). SB 776 (Ashby, Chapter 788, Statutes of 2025) combined the registration and application fee for a non-resident ophthalmic lens dispenser and increased the statutory minimum and maximum fee for that registration. However, when the fees were combined, the established fee floors were inadvertently increased. This bill revises the initial registration fee to be set at $350 (which is the total combined application and registration fee charged prior to SB 776) and reduces the renewal fee to $200.

Veterinary Medical Board. The VMB oversees veterinarians and registered veterinary technicians. This bill repeals obsolete language related to the VMB's registration and oversight of veterinary technicians.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: Yes

According to the Assembly Committee on Appropriations, the bill will not result in costs to the Contractors State License Board, Dental Board of California, State Board of Optometry, Veterinary Medical Board and the Bureau of Household Goods and Services. The bill will result in minor and absorbable costs to the Board

of Behavioral Sciences, Bureau of Automotive Repair and Bureau of Security and Investigative Services and minor and absorbable costs to the DCA Office of Information Services to make changes to the military affidavit and various website updates.

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/25/26)

Dental Board of California

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/25/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The Dental Board of California notes that "this legislation aligns with our commitment to public protection…"

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an Senate Third Reading By BERMAN

Ayes: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

Noes:

No Vote Recorded: McKinnor

Prepared by: Elissa Silva / B., P. & E. D. / (916) 651-4104
11/16/26 11:31:48

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