

MEMORANDUM

DATE	November 17, 2025
TO	Physician Assistant Board (Board)
FROM	Jasmine Dhillon, Legislative and Regulatory Specialist
SUBJECT	Agenda Item 18. Report by the Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Committee

A. **Assembly Bill (AB) 447 (González) Emergency room patient prescriptions.**

Status: Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 363, Statutes of 2025.

Summary: This bill allows a prescriber to dispense an unused quantity of a dangerous drug acquired by a hospital pharmacy to an emergency room patient when they are discharged, if the drug was administered from single patient use multi-dose packaging and can be self-administered by the patient. This bill also provides that the drug must have been ordered and administered to the emergency room patient and must be necessary for the continued treatment of the patient but may not be a controlled substance. Additionally, this bill adds to the circumstances of when an exempt from licensure automated unit dose system used to provide medication to patients can be utilized.

Effective Date: January 1, 2026

Fiscal Impact: Staff does not anticipate any fiscal impact.

Board Position: At its April 21, 2025 meeting, the Board took a “support” position.

B. **AB 489 (Bonta) Health care professions: deceptive terms or letters: artificial intelligence.**

Status: Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 615, Statutes of 2025.

MISSION: To protect and serve consumers through licensing, education, and objective enforcement of the Physician Assistant laws and regulations.

Summary: The healing arts practice acts often prohibit the use of specific terms, letters, or phrases by unlicensed individuals that misleadingly indicate or imply the individual is licensed. For instance, the use of “Dr.,” “M.D.,” or “doctor” is generally prohibited unless the person holds a physician’s and surgeon’s certificate, because the terms indicate or imply the person is licensed to practice medicine. (Bus. & Prof. Code, section 2054.)

This bill prohibits the use of the specific terms, letters, or phrases that are reserved for licensees in the healing arts practice acts in the advertising or functionality of artificial intelligence systems. Healing arts boards within the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) may pursue an injunction, restraining order, or other remedy, such as an administrative citation, against a person or entity who develops or deploys such a system.

Effective Date: January 1, 2026

Fiscal Impact: Staff anticipates that this bill would have minimal to no impact, which is absorbable within current budget and staffing resources.

Board Position: At its April 21, 2025 meeting, the Board took a “watch” position.

C. **[AB 742](#) (Elhawary) Department of Consumer Affairs: licensing: applicants who are descendants of slaves.**

Status: This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Summary: This bill would require those boards to expedite applications for applicants seeking licensure who are descendants of American slaves once a process to certify descendants of American slaves is implemented, as specified. This bill would make these provisions operative only if SB 518 is enacted establishing the Bureau for Descendants of American Slavery and would make these provisions operative when the certification process is implemented pursuant to that measure. SB 518 would require the bureau, as part of its duties, to verify an individual’s status as a descendant and would require proof of an individual’s descendant status to be a qualifying criterion for benefits authorized by the state for descendants. AB 742 would repeal these provisions 4 years from the date on which they become operative or on January 1, 2032, whichever is earlier.

Fiscal Impact: Staff anticipates that this bill would have minimal to no impact, which is absorbable within current budget and staffing resources.

Board Position: At its April 21, 2025 meeting, the Board took an “oppose” position.

D. **[AB 1501](#) (Committee on Business and Professions) Physician assistants and podiatrists.**

Status: Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 194, Statutes of 2025.

MISSION: To protect and serve consumers through licensing, education, and objective enforcement of the Physician Assistant laws and regulations.

Summary: This is the sunset bill for the Physician Assistant Board and extends the Board's sunset date until January 1, 2030.

This bill includes various necessary updates to reflect that Board does not approve PA training programs.

This bill increases the number of physician assistants whom a physician and surgeon may supervise at any one time to 8.

This bill establishes a \$60 application fee, a \$250 initial license fee, and a \$300 biennial license renewal fee. The bill authorizes the Board to increase the application fee to not more than \$80, the initial license fee to not more than \$500, and the biennial license renewal fee to not more than \$500.

The bill expresses the Legislature's intent to review how practice agreements are utilized in other states, evaluating their potential benefits or detriments to patient care, workforce efficiency, and regulatory oversight. The bill also makes several other technical changes identified in the Board's sunset report.

Effective Date: January 1, 2026

Fiscal Impact: Staff does not currently anticipate a significant fiscal impact, as any related costs may be absorbable within existing resources. Minor costs may be incurred from updating laws and regulations materials, revising website content, and addressing increased public inquiries through calls and emails handled by staff. The potential enforcement impact remains unknown. The Board will continue to monitor the effects of this change and assess the need for additional resources, if necessary.

Board Position: At its August 15, 2025 meeting, the Board took a "support" position.

E. **Senate Bill (SB) 470 (Laird) Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act: teleconferencing.**

Status: Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by the Secretary of State – Chapter 222, Statutes of 2025.

Summary: This bill extends, until January 1, 2030, the sunset date for certain provisions relating to teleconferencing under the Bagley Keene Open Meeting Act. This allows boards and bureaus to continue to hold teleconferenced board and advisory committee meetings, provided that specified physical location requirements are met. These provisions, which took effect in 2024 following the passage of SB 544 (Laird, Chapter 216, Statutes of 2023), were set to sunset on January 1, 2026.

Effective Date: January 1, 2026

Fiscal Impact: Staff does not anticipate any fiscal impact.

MISSION: To protect and serve consumers through licensing, education, and objective enforcement of the Physician Assistant laws and regulations.



Board Position: At its April 21, 2025 meeting, the Board took a “support” position.

- F. **SB 641 (Ashby) Department of Consumer Affairs and Department of Real Estate: states of emergency: waivers and exemptions.**

Status: This bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Summary: This bill would authorize the Department of Real Estate and boards under the jurisdiction of the Department of Consumer Affairs to waive the application of certain provisions of the licensure requirements that the board or department is charged with enforcing for licensees and applicants impacted by a declared federal, state, or local emergency or whose home or business is located in a declared disaster area, including certain examination, fee, and continuing education requirements. The bill would exempt impacted licensees of boards from, among other requirements, the payment of duplicate license fees. This bill would exempt a licensee whose home or business mailing address is located in an area for which a federal, state, or local emergency or disaster area is declared from the penalty for failing to notify their licensing agency within 30 days of a change in their mailing address. The bill would require all applicants and licensees of the Department of Real Estate or boards under the Department of Consumer Affairs to provide the board or department with an email address.

Fiscal Impact: Staff does not anticipate any fiscal impact.

Board Position: At its April 21, 2025 meeting, the Board took a “watch” position.

MISSION: To protect and serve consumers through licensing, education, and objective enforcement of the Physician Assistant laws and regulations.

