



MEMORANDUM

DATE	January 5, 2024
TO	Veterinary Medical Board (Board)
FROM	Jessica Sieferman, Executive Officer
SUBJECT	Agenda Item 18. 2025 Sunset Review Process Overview and Draft Report

Background

Business and Professions Code (BPC) section [4800](#) is the statute that establishes the Board, its composition and the date the Board is repealed (i.e. Sunset date). The Board’s Sunset date, which only can be extended by the Legislature, is January 1, 2026.

Each year, the Assembly Business and Professions Committee and the Senate Business, Professions, and Economic Development Committee (Joint Oversight Committee) hold joint sunset review oversight hearings to review the boards and bureaus under the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA). The sunset review process provides an opportunity for the DCA, the Legislature, the boards, and interested parties and stakeholders to discuss the performance of the boards and make recommendations for improvements.

As indicated in the attached chart, the sunset review process typically starts in the spring of each Sunset cycle and lasts through the end of the following year. The Joint Oversight Committee provides a sunset template, requesting significant information and data, to the boards in May/June. Using the template and in consultation with the Executive Committee (President and Vice President), Board staff drafts the report for the Board to review, discuss and approve. A first draft is typically provided in the summer, and a final draft is approved by the Board in the fall. Due to sheer size of the report, the Board may hold multiple meetings apart from the quarterly meetings to finalize the report by the December 1 deadline.

In January/February the following year, the Board’s Sunset Bill is introduced (usually with placeholder language), and hearings begin in February/March. Typically, ten days prior to its Sunset hearing, the Board receives the Joint Oversight Committee’s background paper reviewing the Board’s performance since the last sunset review and identifies any issues that need to be addressed. The Executive Committee and the Executive Officer testify at the hearing, and the Board is given thirty days after the hearing to submit written responses to the background paper and any additional

information requested during the hearing. If no significant issues are raised, the Legislature extends the Board's Sunset date another four years.

For reference, the Board's 2019 Sunset Review Report can be found on its website [here](#), and the March 2021 Background Paper can be found [here](#).

2024-2025 Process

The majority of the questions asked and data requested in the sunset template has not changed for over a decade. A question may be revised or added, and data tables may be tweaked, but a significant portion remains the same.

As such, Board staff began drafting portions of the Board's Sunset Review Report using the 2023 template. To provide members ample time to review content and provide input, portions of the draft report will be provided during each Board meeting in 2024.

The January draft (attached) contains many responses from the 2019 Sunset Review Report, as the questions and responses remain unchanged. In addition, it contains summaries of issues raised and recommendations from the Joint Oversight Committee. It also contains a list of "New Issues" the Board has discussed since the last review.

Over the next several months, Board staff will continue to add content and provide updated drafts for member review and input. By reviewing portions as they are completed, the Board may not need to hold additional meetings apart from the quarterly meetings.

Action Requested

No specific Board action is requested at this time. However, please review the content provided so far, and provide any feedback during the January meeting.

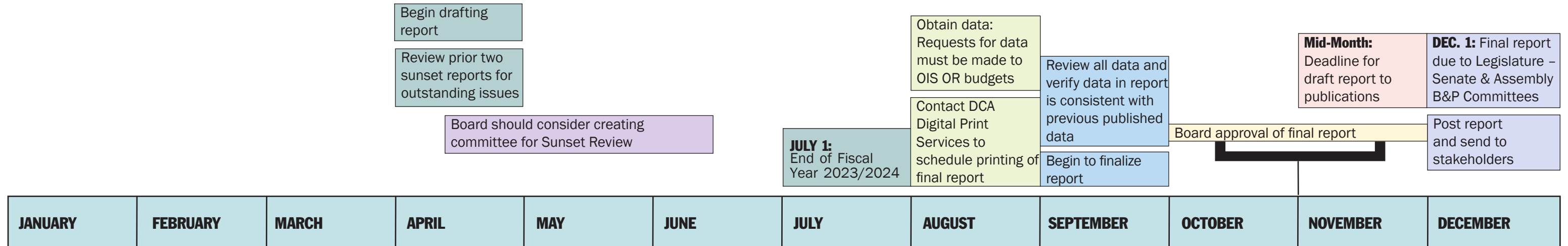
Attachments:

1. 2024-2025 Sunset Review Process Chart
2. 2024 Draft Sunset Review Report

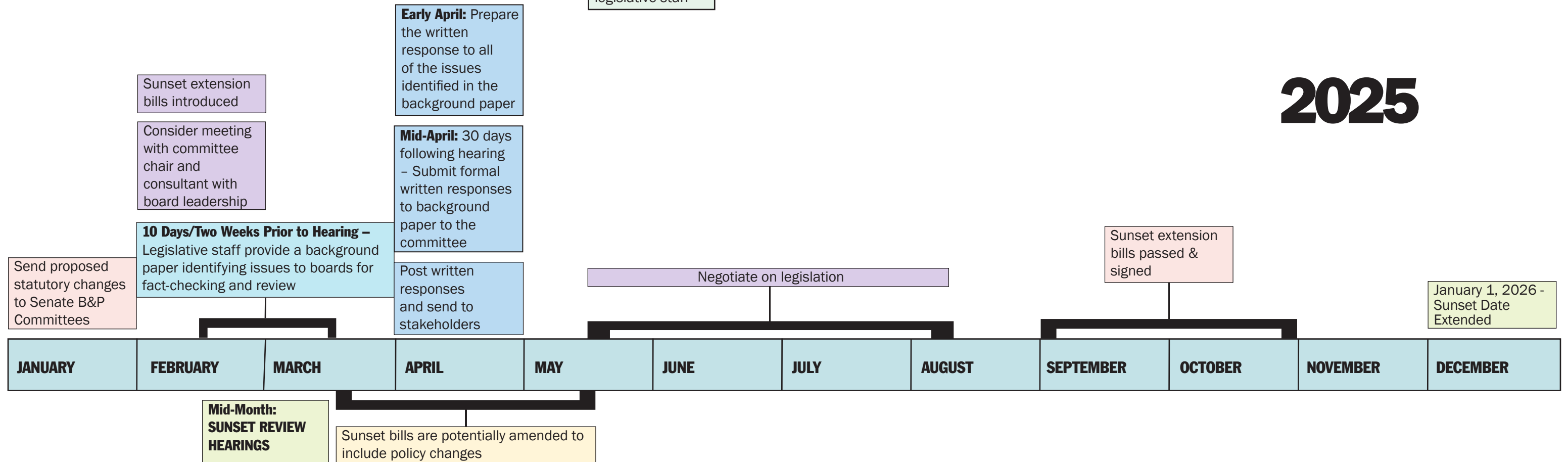


SUNSET REVIEW PROCESS

2024



2025



Veterinary Medical Board

BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND OVERVIEW OF THE CURRENT REGULATORY PROGRAM

As of 1/5/2024

Section 1 –

Background and Description of the Board and Regulated Profession

Provide a short explanation of the history and function of the board.¹ Describe the occupations/profession that are licensed and/or regulated by the board (Practice Acts vs. Title Acts).

Created in 1893, the Veterinary Medical Board (Board) regulates the largest population of veterinarians, veterinary hospitals, registered veterinary technicians (RVT), and veterinary assistant controlled substance permit (VACSP) holders in the nation. Its mission is to protect all consumers and animals by regulating licensees, promoting professional standards, and enforcing the California Veterinary Medicine Practice Act (Act). Public protection is the Board's highest priority in exercising its licensing, regulatory, and disciplinary functions. Whenever the protection of the public is inconsistent with other interests sought to be promoted, the protection of the public is paramount.

1. Describe the make-up and functions of each of the board's committees (cf., Section 12, Attachment B).

Wellness Evaluation Committee (WEC)

The Board's WEC was statutorily authorized in 1982 to assist the Board in seeking ways and means to identify and rehabilitate veterinarians and RVTs with impairment due to abuse of dangerous drugs or alcohol affecting competency so that veterinarians and RVTs so afflicted may be treated and returned to the practice of veterinary medicine in a manner that will not endanger the public health and safety (Business and Professions Code (BPC) § [4860](#)). The WEC consists of five members comprised of at least one veterinarian, two public members, and one. Each WEC member is required to have experience or knowledge in the evaluation or management of persons who are impaired due to alcohol or drug use (BPC § [4861](#)).

Multidisciplinary Advisory Committee (MDC)

In 2009, the Legislature established the Board's MDC to assist, advise, and make recommendations for the implementation of rules and regulations necessary to ensure proper administration and enforcement of the Act and to assist the Board in its examination, licensure, and registration programs. The MDC consists of nine members comprised of five licensed veterinarians, three RVTs, and one public member. One veterinarian and one RVT must be Board members (BPC § [4809.8](#)).

¹ The term "board" in this document refers to a board, bureau, commission, committee, council, department, division, program, or agency, as applicable. Please change the term "board" throughout this document to appropriately refer to the entity being reviewed.

Board/MDC Created Committees

In addition to the two statutorily mandated committees, the Board and the MDC often create committees to focus on specific issues. These two-member committees conduct research, lead discussions, and make recommendations to the MDC and the Board on how to adequately address current issues. The Board currently has three standing committees/subcommittees:

- Executive Committee
- Complaint Audit Subcommittee
- Animal Blood Bank Subcommittee

Since the last review, the Board has also created subcommittees to tackle the following issues:

- Equine Practice
- Drug Compounding
- Medical Records
- Inspections
- RVT Education
- Alternate Practice Settings

Board Members and Bios

Christina Alanna Bradbury, DVM, Professional Member, President

Dr. Bradbury of Meadow Vista was appointed to the Board in October 2018. She has been an internist and senior veterinary associate at Vista Veterinary Specialists since 2011. Dr. Bradbury was an internist at Loomis Basin Veterinary Clinic from 2010 to 2011, a small animal internal medicine resident at Colorado State University Veterinary Teaching Hospital from 2007 to 2010, and a small animal rotating intern at Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital from 2006 to 2007. She is a member of the Sacramento Valley Veterinary Medical Association and the American Veterinary Medical Association. Dr. Bradbury earned a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from the University of California, Davis School of Veterinary Medicine and a Master of Science degree in clinical science from the Colorado State University, College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences.

Maria Preciosa Sabio Solacito, DVM, Professional Member, Vice President

Dr. Solacito of Lancaster was appointed to the Board in August 2020. She has been Senior Veterinarian at the County of Los Angeles Department of Animal Care and Control since 2013. Dr. Solacito was a Shelter Veterinarian at the County of Los Angeles Department of Animal Care and Control, Lancaster from 2008 to 2012. She is a member of the Southern California Veterinary Medical Association, Southern California Filipino Veterinary Medical Association, Association for Animal Welfare Advancement, California Animal Welfare Association and the Philippine Veterinary Medical Association. Dr. Solacito earned a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from the University of the Philippines, College of Veterinary Medicine.

Barrie DonLeo Grant, DVM, Professional Member

Dr. Grant of Bonsall was appointed to the Board in February 2023. He has been an Equine Surgeon in private practice since 2008. Dr. Grant was an Equine Surgeon at San Luis Rey Equine Hospital from 1991 to 2008. He was a Faculty Member at Washington State University from 1969 to 1972 and from 1974 to 1991. Dr. Grant earned Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Master of Science degrees from Washington State University.

Jaymie Jo Noland, DVM, Professional Member

Dr. Noland of Los Osos was appointed to the Board in September 2015. She has been head of the California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo Animal Science Department since 2013, where she has been an animal science professor since 1998. Dr. Noland has been an independent thoroughbred breeder consultant since 2008. She was an associate veterinarian at the Oak Park Veterinary Clinic from 1996 to 2000, and at the South County Veterinary Hospital from 1991 to 1996 and was co-owner and operator at Cal-Tex Feed Yard from 1977 to 1988.

Kristi Marie Pawlowski, RVT, Professional Member

Ms. Pawlowski of Mather was appointed to the Board in June 2023. She has been Chief Insight Director for the Insight Veterinary Wellness Center since 2020. Ms. Pawlowski has been Executive Director at the Sacramento Valley Veterinary Medical Association since 1991. She was Owner and Hospital Manager of Banfield Pet Hospital of Lincoln from 2007 to 2016 and of Banfield Pet Hospital of Folsom from 2002 to 2016. Ms. Pawlowski earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Human Resources and Organizational Behavior from California State University, Sacramento.

Dianne Prado, Public Member

Ms. Prado of Los Angeles was appointed to the Board in June 2019. She is the founder and Executive Director of the Housing Equality & Advocacy Resource Team (HEART L.A.). Ms. Prado began her career as a staff attorney with the Eviction Defense Network. She then joined the Inner City Law Center in 2012 as a Staff Attorney with the Homelessness Prevention Project. Ms. Prado then joined the Slum Housing Litigation unit and became a Supervising Attorney. She is a graduate of Western State University College of Law and holds her Bachelor of Arts in Criminology, Law, & Society from the University of California, Irvine.

Veterinary Medical Board (VMB) Member Roster and Attendance																		
Fiscal Years (FYs) 2019/2020 2024/2025																		
Location	Sacramento	Teleconference	Sacramento	Teleconference	Sacramento	Teleconference	Teleconference	Teleconference	Teleconference	Teleconference	Teleconference	Teleconference						
Dates	July 17-18, 2019	September 12, 2019	October 9-11, 2019	November 6, 2019	January 30-31, 2020	April 23, 2020	May 14, 2020	June 4, 2020	July 2, 2020	July 23-24, 2020	August 13, 2020	October 22-23, 2020						
Name of Board Member (Member Type / Appointed By)	FY 19/20				FY 20/21				FY 21/22			FY 22/23		FY 23/24		FY 24/25		
Cheryl Lynn Waterhouse, DVM (Professional Member / Governor) Appointed: 06/07/2012; Re-Appointed: 07/07/2016 Term Expiration: 06/01/2020*																		
Mark Thomas Nunez, DVM (Professional Member / Governor) Appointed: 08/20/2013; Re-Appointed: 02/27/2018 Term Expiration: 06/01/2021*																		
Kathy Bowler (Public Member / Governor) Appointed: 08/04/2014; Re-Appointed: 10/12/2018 Term Expiration: 06/01/2022*																		
Jennifer Lored, RVT (Professional Member / Governor) Appointed: 09/04/2014; Re-Appointed: 10/12/2018 Term Expiration: 06/01/2022*																		
Jaymie Jo Noland, DVM (Professional Member / Governor) Appointed: 09/22/2015; Re-Appointed: 01/16/2020 Term Expiration: 06/01/2023*																		

Veterinary Medical Board (VMB) Member Roster and Attendance																																
Fiscal Years (FYs) 2019/2020 2024/2025																																
Location	Sacramento	Teleconference	Sacramento	Teleconference	Sacramento	Teleconference	Teleconference	Teleconference	Teleconference	Teleconference	Teleconference	Teleconference																				
Dates	July 17-18, 2019	September 12, 2019	October 9-11, 2019	November 6, 2019	January 30-31, 2020	April 23, 2020	May 14, 2020	June 4, 2020	July 2, 2020	July 23-24, 2020	August 13, 2020	October 22-23, 2020	January 28-29, 2021	April 22-23, 2021	July 22-23, 2021	October 21-22, 2021	January 19-20, 2022	April 20-21, 2022	July 20-21, 2022	October 19-20, 2022	January 25-26, 2023	April 19-20, 2023	May 24, 2023	July 19-20, 2023	October 18-19, 2023	October 20, 2023	January 17-18, 2024	April 17-18, 2024	July 24-25, 2024	October 16-17, 2024	January 15-16, 2025	April 16-17, 2025
Name of Board Member (Member Type / Appointed By)	FY 19/20				FY 20/21				FY 21/22			FY 22/23			FY 23/24			FY 24/25														
Alana Yanez (Public Member / Senate Rules Committee) Appointed: 07/12/2017 Term Expiration: 06/01/2020*	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey
Christina Alanna Bradbury, DVM (Professional Member / Governor) Appointed: 10/12/2018; Re-Appointed: 04/21/2023 Term Expiration: 06/01/2026	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey
Dianne Prado (Public Member / Speaker of the Assembly) Appointed: 06/10/2019; Re-Appointed: 06/01/2022 Term Expiration: 06/01/2026	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Maria Preciosa Sabio Solacito, DVM (Professional Member / Governor) Appointed: 08/24/2020 Term Expiration: 06/01/2024	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Judy Ki (Public Member / Senate Rules Committee) Appointed: 06/09/2021 Term Expiration: 06/01/2024; Resigned: 07/23/2021	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green

Multidisciplinary Advisory Committee (MDC) Member Roster and Attendance																									
Fiscal Years (FYs) 2019/2020 2024/2025																									
Location	Sacramento	Sacramento	Sacramento	Cancelled	Teleconference	Teleconference	Teleconference	Teleconference	Teleconference	Teleconference	Teleconference	Cancelled	Teleconference	Teleconference	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD						
Dates	July 16, 2019	October 8, 2019	January 29, 2020	April 22, 2020	July 22, 2020	October 21, 2020	January 27, 2021	April 21, 2021	July 21, 2021	October 20, 2021	January 18, 2022	April 19, 2022	July 19, 2022	October 18, 2022	January 24, 2023	April 18, 2023	July 18, 2023	October 17, 2023	January 16, 2024	April 16, 2024	July 23, 2024	October 15, 2024	January 14, 2025	April 15, 2025	
Name of Board Member (Member Type / Appointed By)	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	FY 21/22	FY 22/23	FY 23/24	FY 24/25																			
Kevin Lazarcheff, DVM (Professional Member / Veterinary Medical Board) Appointed: 05/23/2018; Term Expiration: 06/30/2021 Re-Appointed: 04/22/2021; Term Expiration: 06/30/2024																									
Jennifer Loreda, RVT (Professional Member (Board Liaison*) / Governor*) Appointed: 08/28/2018* ; Term Expiration: 06/30/2022*/**																									
Richard Sullivan, DVM (Professional Member (Board Liaison*) / Governor* / Veterinary Medical Board) Appointed: 08/28/2018* ; Term Expiration: 06/01/2019* Appointed: 04/17/2019; Term Expiration: 06/30/2022 Re-Appointed: 04/20/2022; Term Expiration: 06/30/2025																									
Cheryl Lynn Waterhouse, DVM (Professional Member (Board Liaison*) / Governor* / Veterinary Medical Board) Appointed: 07/16/2019* ; Term Expiration: 06/01/2020*/** Appointed: 05/24/2023; Term Expiration: 06/30/2026																									
Jamie Peyton, DVM (Professional Member / Veterinary Medical Board) Appointed: 07/23/2020; Term Expiration: 06/30/2023; Resigned: 10/18/2022																									
Christina Alanna Bradbury, DVM (Professional Member (Board Liaison*) / Governor*) Appointed: 09/21/2020*; Term Expiration: 06/01/2023*/**; Resigned: 10/17/2023																									

Multidisciplinary Advisory Committee (MDC) Member Roster and Attendance Fiscal Years (FYs) 2019/2020 2024/2025												
Location	Sacramento	Sacramento	Sacramento	Canceled	Teleconference	Teleconference	Teleconference	Teleconference	Teleconference	Teleconference	Teleconference	Teleconference
Dates	July 16, 2019	October 8, 2019	January 29, 2020	April 22, 2020	July 22, 2020	October 21, 2020	January 27, 2021	April 21, 2021	July 21, 2021	October 20, 2021	January 18, 2022	April 19, 2022
Name of Board Member (Member Type / Appointed By)	FY 19/20				FY 20/21				FY 21/22			
										FY 22/23		
											FY 23/24	
												FY 24/25
Maria Salazar Sperber, JD (Public Member / Veterinary Medical Board) Appointed: 01/28/2021; Term Expiration: 06/30/2024; Resigned: 10/18/2022												
Dianne Sequoia, DVM (Professional Member / Veterinary Medical Board) Appointed: 04/22/2021; Term Expiration: 06/30/2024												
Marie Ussery, RVT (Professional Member / Veterinary Medical Board) Appointed: 10/21/2021; Term Expiration: 06/30/2024												
W. Kent Fowler, DVM (Professional Member / Veterinary Medical Board) Appointed: 01/25/2023; Term Expiration: 06/30/2026; Resigned: 04/18/2023												
Kathy Bowler (Public Member / Veterinary Medical Board) Appointed: 04/19/2023; Term Expiration: 06/30/2026												
Barrie DonLeo Grant, DVM (Professional Member (Board Liaison*) / Governor*) Appointed: 10/17/2023*; Term Expiration: 06/01/2025*												

*Period served as the Board’s Liaison ■ Attended ■ Not in Attendance/Excused Absence ■ Not Applicable

**Served up to a 1 year extension

2. In the past four years, was the board unable to hold any meetings due to lack of quorum? If so, please describe. Why? When? How did it affect operations?

In the past four years, no meetings were unable to be held due to a lack of quorum.

3. Describe any major changes to the board since the last Sunset Review, including, but not limited to:

• Internal changes (i.e., reorganization, relocation, change in leadership, strategic planning)

Since the last Sunset Review, the Board’s workforce has increased by 40%. After hiring a new Executive Officer and management team in FY 18/19, the Board began restructuring units to better address operational needs and the increased workload. In FY 21/22 the Board combined the Inspection and Enforcement Units into one Enforcement Unit where the analysts all now review inspection (minimum standards) cases and enforcement (standard of care) cases. At the beginning of FY 23/24, the Board hired one Staff Services Manager II to serve as the Board’s Deputy Executive Officer.

The Board completed all objectives for its 2020-2024 Strategic plan a year early. As such, the Board met in October of 2023 to develop a new Strategic Plan for 2024-2026. The Board anticipates approving the new plan in January 2024.

• All legislation sponsored by the board and affecting the board since the last sunset review.

Legislative Activity

The following legislative actions were introduced and/or enacted since the last Sunset Review. For each bill, only the affected sections contained within the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act [commencing with Business and Professions Code (BPC) section 4800], general provisions of the BPC, or sections of other codes pertaining to the Board are listed.

1. Bill Number: AB [2113](#) (Low, Chapter 186, Statutes of 2020)

Subject Matter: Refugees, Asylees, and Special Immigrant Visa Holders: Professional Licensing: Initial Licensure Process

Sections Affected: BPC Section 135.4

Effective Date: January 1, 2021

Summary: This law requires boards and bureaus within the DCA to expedite the initial licensure process for an applicant who supplies satisfactory evidence that they are a refugee, have been granted asylum, or have a special immigrant visa, as specified. This law also allows boards and bureaus to assist these applicants during the initial licensure process. This law further specifies that persons applying for expedited licensure will still be required to meet all applicable statutory and regulatory licensure requirements.

2. Bill Number: SB [878](#) (Jones, Chapter 131 Statutes of 2020)

Subject Matter: Department of Consumer Affairs: License application: Processing Times

Sections Affected: BPC Section 139.5

Effective Date: January 1, 2021

Summary: Beginning July 1, 2021, this law requires each board and bureau within the DCA that issues licenses, to prominently display on their websites each quarter either the current average time frame for processing initial and renewal license applications, or the combined

current average time frame for processing both initial and renewal license applications. This law will also require each board or bureau to quarterly post on their websites either the current average processing time frame for each licensing type administered by the program, or the combined current average time frame for processing all licensing types administered by the program.

3. Bill Number: SB [1474](#) (Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee, Chapter 312, Statutes of 2020)

Subject Matter: Business and Professions

Sections Affected: Relevant Sections: 4800, 4804.5

Effective Date: January 1, 2021

Summary: This law 1) provides a one-year sunset extension for the following DCA programs that were undergoing the sunset review process prior to COVID-19: Board of Barbering and Cosmetology, Board of Behavioral Sciences, Board of Psychology, Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians, Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education, Bureau of Real Estate Appraisers, California State Board of Pharmacy, Physician Assistant Board, Podiatric Medical Board of California, and the Veterinary Medical Board; 2) extends the operations for the following DCA programs until January 1, 2023: Board of Chiropractic Examiners, Naturopathic Medicine Committee, Board of Occupational Therapy, Respiratory Care Board, and the Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensers Board; 3) clarifies that registered dental hygienists may perform any procedure or service within their scope of practice if the appropriate education and training has been completed; 4) requires the Dental Hygiene Board to grant initial licensure to any applicant who within the preceding three years has satisfactorily completed the appropriate examinations, instead of the preceding two years in existing law; 5) clarifies the education a registered dental hygienist in alternative practice must possess to be issued a license; 6) prohibits the Contractors State License Board from releasing any deposit to anyone for any purpose except as determined by a court and requires that deposits be distributed to all claimants in proportion to the amount of their claims if the deposit is insufficient to pay all claims in full; 7) requires the Contractors State License Board to retroactively grant license renewal if a licensee submits an application within 90 days of the license expiration and pays all required fees; 8) prohibits contracts from limiting a consumer's ability to make complaints to a licensing board or from participating in an investigation of a licensee; and 9) makes several other non-substantive or technical changes.

4. Bill Number: AB [107](#) (Salas, Chapter 693, Statutes of 2021)

Subject Matter: Licensure: Veterans and Military Spouses

Sections Affected: BPC Sections 115.6, 115.8, 115.9, 2946, 5132, 10151.3

Effective Date: January 1, 2022

Summary: This bill, after July 1, 2023, requires most boards and bureaus within DCA to issue temporary licenses to military spouses meeting specified criteria within 30 days, including passing a background check if one is required for licensure. This bill also requires DCA and boards and bureaus to post license information for military spouses on their websites and requires DCA to submit an annual report on licensure of military members, veterans, and spouses.

5. Bill Number: AB [1282](#) (Bloom, Chapter 752, Statutes of 2021)

Subject Matter: Veterinary Medicine: Blood Banks for Animals

Sections Affected: Relevant Sections: BPC Sections 4826, 4836.5

Effective Date: January 1, 2022

Summary: This bill allows community-based animal blood banks to commercially sell animal blood from community donors. This bill expands the scope of actions constituting veterinary medicine to include the collection of blood from an animal for the purpose of transferring or selling that blood and blood component products, as defined, to a licensed veterinarian for use at a registered premises, except in certain circumstances. It authorizes the Board to establish a community-based animal blood bank registration, to be renewed annually, to cover the costs associated with oversight and inspection of community-based animal blood banks. It establishes specified safety procedures, such as veterinarian supervision and testing of the blood. This bill also requires both closed colony and community-based animal blood banks to submit quarterly reports to the Department of Food and Agriculture, which would subsequently be required to phase out licensing of closed colony blood banks within 18 months once the reports show that community-based blood banks are collecting an annual amount equal to the amount sold by closed colony blood banks in four consecutive quarters.

6. Bill Number: AB [1535](#) (Committee on Business and Professions, Chapter 631, Statutes of 2021)

Subject Matter: Veterinary Medical Board: Application and Examination: Discipline and Citation

Sections Affected: BPC Sections 4800, 4804.5, 4826.3, 4827, 4830, 4836.2, 4836.3, 4841.4, 4841.5, 4842.5, 4846, 4846.4, 4847, 4847.1, 4848, 4848.1, 4848.3, 4849, 4853, 4853.1, 4853.6, 4854.1, 4861, 4862, 4863, 4864, 4866, 4867, 4868, 4869, 4870, 4871, 4872, 4873, 4875.2, 4875.6, 4883, 4900, and 4905

Effective Date: January 1, 2022

Summary: This bill extends the sunset date of the Board from January 1, 2022, to January 1, 2026. Other notable provisions include: (1) removes the state-specific examinations for veterinarians and veterinary technicians; (2) removes temporary and intern veterinarian licenses; (3) removes the requirement for out-of-state licensees to take an in-person California-specific course for reciprocity purposes; (4) decreases fees by 36% for registered veterinary technicians; (5) prohibits a premises registration holder who is not a California-licensed veterinarian from interfering with, controlling, or otherwise directing the professional judgment of any California-licensed veterinarian or registered veterinary technician; (6) expands disclosure requirements for veterinary premises registrations; (7) allows the Board to deem applications abandoned after one year of inactivity; (8) renames the Diversion Evaluation Committee to the Wellness Evaluation Committee, and (9) exempts a person providing specified care to animals deposited at animal shelters from licensure requirements and exempts animal shelters from the veterinary premises registration requirement if those shelters are solely administering nonprescription vaccinations, nonprescription medications, and medications pursuant to a written treatment plan.

7. Bill Number: SB [731](#) (Durazo, Chapter 814, Statutes of 2022)

Subject Matter: Criminal Records: Relief

Sections Affected: Education Code Sections 44242.5, 44346; Penal Code Sections 851.93, 1203.41, 1203.425, 11105

Effective Date: July 1, 2023

Summary: This bill, among other provisions, expands the types of arrest records that are eligible to be automatically sealed to include more types of felonies under specified circumstances. This bill also allows certain felony convictions that resulted in incarcerations to be automatically sealed as long as the individual has completed their sentence and has not

been convicted of a new felony within four years. It also expands the date range for which arrests and convictions are eligible to be automatically sealed.

8. Bill Number: SB [1237](#) (Newman, Chapter 386, Statutes of 2022)

Subject Matter: Licenses: Military Service

Sections Affected: BPC Sections 114.3

Effective Date: January 1, 2023

Summary: This bill clarifies that military members on active duty with the California National Guard or members of the military on non-temporary assignments stationed outside California are eligible for a waiver of license renewal fees, continuing education requirements, and other license renewal requirements.

9. Bill Number: SB [1495](#) (Committee on Business, Professions and Economic Development, Chapter 511, Statutes of 2022)

Subject Matter: Professions and Vocations

Sections Affected: Relevant Sections: BPC Sections 4846.5, 4883

Effective Date: January 1, 2023

Summary: This is the omnibus bill for the Senate Committee on Business, Professions and Economic Development. It updates the name of the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development to the: Department of Health Care Access and Information; removes gendered language throughout the Business and Professions Code; and incorporates legislative changes in the Medical Practice Act, Pharmacy Law, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist Act, Dental Practice Act, Physician Assistant Practice Act, Veterinary Medicine Practice Act, Clinical Social Worker Practice Act, Professional Fiduciaries Act, Contractors State License Law, Collateral Recovery Act, Private Investigator Act, Private Security Services Act, Geologist and Geophysicist Act, and the Automotive Repair Act.

10. Bill Number: AB [1885](#) (Kalra, Chapter 389, Statutes of 2022)

Subject Matter: Cannabis and Cannabis Products: Animals: Veterinary Medicine

Sections Affected: BPC Sections 4883, 4884, 26000, 26001, 26130

Effective Date: January 1, 2023

Summary: This bill allows veterinarians to recommend cannabis for use on animal patients; requires the Board to adopt guidelines for veterinarians to use when recommending cannabis and post those guidelines to their website by January 1, 2024; includes cannabis products intended for use on an animal in the definition of cannabis products; and requires any cannabis products intended for use by an animal to conform with any additional standards or regulations established by the Department of Cannabis Control, which the bill requires be promulgated no later than July 1, 2025.

11. Bill Number: AB [1399](#) (Friedman, Chapter 475, Statutes of 2023)

Subject Matter: Veterinary Medicine: Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship: Telehealth

Sections Affected: BPC Sections 4067, 4825.1, 4826.6, 4829.5, 4853, 4857, 4875.1; Food and Agriculture Code Section 14401

Effective Date: January 1, 2024

Summary: Similar to existing regulation, this bill would prohibit the practice of veterinary medicine outside the context of a veterinarian-client-patient relationship (VCPR), as defined, except as specified. However, unlike existing law, this bill would allow the VCPR to be established using synchronous (real-time) video and audio communication instead of a

physical, hands-on examination. Once the 1 VCPR is established, this bill would authorize a licensee to practice veterinary telehealth, as defined.

The bill would require a veterinarian who practices veterinary medicine via telehealth, among other things, to employ sound professional judgment to determine whether using telehealth is an appropriate method for delivering medical advice or treatment to the animal patient and providing quality of care consistent with prevailing veterinary medical practice, be familiar with available medical resources, be able to provide the client with a list of nearby veterinarians who may be able to see the animal patient in person upon the request of the client, keep, maintain, and make an animal patient record summary available, provide the client with information about the veterinarian, and secure an alternative means of contacting the client if the electronic means is interrupted, as specified.

The bill would also define the term “client” for purposes of the act and make other conforming changes. This bill would exempt the location where a veterinarian practices telehealth from the requirement that it be registered if specified conditions are met, including, among other things, that the veterinarian does not perform any in-person examination or treatment of animal patients at that location.

12. Bill Number: SB [143](#) (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review, Chapter 196, Statutes of 2023)

Subject Matter: State Government

Sections Affected:

Effective Date: September 13, 2023

Summary: This bill, among other things, allows for remote public meetings without noticed locations accessible to the public until December 31, 2023. The bill also implements the Federal License Portability Law for Servicemembers. Since this is a budget trailer bill, it is effective immediately.

13. Bill Number: SB [544](#) (Laird, Chapter 216, Statutes of 2023)

Subject Matter: Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act: Teleconferencing

Sections Affected: Government Codes (GC) Sections 11123.2, 11123.5, 11124,

Effective Date: January 1, 2024

Summary: This bill enacts an additional, alternative set of provisions under which a state body may hold a meeting by teleconference. The bill requires at least one member of the state body to be physically present at each teleconference location, defined for these purposes as a physical location that is accessible to the public and from which members of the public may participate in the meeting. The bill, under specified circumstances, authorizes a member of the state body to participate from a remote location, which would not be required to be accessible to the public and which the bill would prohibit the notice and agenda from disclosing.

Specifically, the bill authorizes a member’s remote participation if the other members who are physically present at the same teleconference location constitute a majority of the state body. The bill also authorizes a member’s remote participation if the member has a need related to a disability and notifies the state body, as specified. Under the bill, that member would be counted toward the majority of members required to be physically present at the same teleconference location. The bill requires a member who participates from a remote location to disclose whether any other individuals 18 years of age or older are present in the room at the

remote location with the member and the general nature of the member's relationship with those individuals. This bill requires the members of the state body to visibly appear on camera during the open portion of a meeting that is publicly accessible via the internet or other online platform unless the appearance would be technologically impracticable, as specified. The bill requires a member who does not appear on camera due to challenges with internet connectivity to announce the reason for their nonappearance when they turn off their camera.

This bill also requires the state body to provide a means by which the public may remotely hear audio of the meeting, remotely observe the meeting, remotely address the body, or attend the meeting by providing on the posted agenda a teleconference telephone number, an internet website or other online platform, and a physical address for each teleconference location. The bill requires the telephonic or online means provided to the public to access the meeting to be equivalent to the telephonic or online means provided to a member of the state body participating remotely. The bill requires any notice required by the act to specify the applicable teleconference telephone number, internet website or other online platform, and physical address of each teleconference location, as well as any other information indicating how the public can access the meeting remotely and in person. If the state body allows members of the public to observe and address the meeting telephonically or otherwise electronically, the bill requires the state body to implement and advertise, as prescribed, a procedure for receiving and swiftly resolving requests for reasonable modification or accommodation from individuals with disabilities, as specified.

The bill imposes requirements consistent with the above-described existing law provisions, including a requirement that the agenda provide an opportunity for members of the public to address the state body directly, as specified. The bill entitles members of the public to exercise their right to directly address the state body during the teleconferenced meeting without being required to submit public comments before the meeting or in writing. This bill provides that it does not affect prescribed existing notice and agenda requirements and requires the state body to post an agenda on its internet website and, on the day of the meeting, at each teleconference location designated in the notice of the meeting. This bill requires the state body, upon discovering that a means of remote participation required by the bill has failed during the meeting and cannot be restored, to end or adjourn the meeting in accordance with prescribed adjournment and notice provisions, including information about reconvening. This bill removes the rollcall vote requirement and the requirement for a quorum in attendance at the primary physical meeting location.

The bill, instead, requires at least one staff member of the state body to be present at the primary physical meeting location. The bill requires the members of the state body to visibly appear on camera during the open portion of a meeting that is publicly accessible via the internet or other online platform unless the appearance would be technologically impracticable, as specified. The bill requires a member who does not appear on camera due to challenges with internet connectivity to announce the reason for their nonappearance when they turn off their camera. This bill repeals the above-described provisions on January 1, 2026.

This bill exempts from those provisions an internet website or other online platform that may require the submission of information to log into a teleconferenced meeting. The bill permits a person to submit a pseudonym or other anonymous information when using the internet website or other online platform to attend the meeting.

- 14. Bill Number: SB [669](#) (Cortese, Chapter 882, Statutes of 2023)**
Subject Matter: Veterinarians: Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship
Sections Affected: BPC sections 4826.7, 4840
Effective Date: January 1, 2024
Summary: This bill would authorize a veterinarian to allow a registered veterinary technician to act as an agent of the veterinarian for the purpose of establishing the VCPR to administer preventive or prophylactic vaccines or medications for the control or eradication of apparent or anticipated internal or parasites by satisfying specified criteria.
- 15. Bill Number: SB [887](#) (Committee on Business, Professions and Economic Development, Chapter 510, Statutes of 2023)**
Subject Matter: Consumer Affairs
Sections Affected: Relevant Sections: 4846, 4861, 4875.3
Effective Date: January 1, 2024
Summary: This bill, among other things, includes Board requested legislative amendments to authorize license verification be confirmed through electronic means, revises the Board's Wellness Evaluation Committee composition to require at least one licensed veterinarian, at least two public members, and at least one registered veterinary technician, and deletes the provision related to the criteria for a subject matter expert in citation cases.
- 16. Bill Number: AB [883](#) (Mathis, Chapter 348, Statutes of 2023)**
Subject Matter: Business Licenses: United States Department of Defense SkillBridge Program
Sections Affected: BPC Section 115.4
Effective Date: January 1, 2024
Summary: This bill would require, on and after July 1, 2024, a board to expedite, and authorize a board to assist, in the initial licensure process for an applicant 9 who supplies satisfactory evidence to the board that the applicant is an active duty member of a regular component of the Armed Forces of the United States enrolled in the United States Department of Defense SkillBridge program, as specified, and would provide that regulations to administer those provisions be adopted in accordance with the rulemaking provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act.
- 17. Bill Number: SB [259](#) (Seyarto, Chapter 148, Statutes of 2023)**
Subject Matter: Reports Submitted to Legislative Committees
Sections Affected: GC Sections 9795, 10248
Effective Date: January 1, 2024
Summary: Existing law requires a state agency that is required or requested by law to submit a report to the Members of either house of the Legislature generally to submit the report in a specified manner and to post the report on the state agency's internet website. This bill additionally requires a state agency to post on its internet website any report required or requested by law or identified in the Legislative Analyst's Supplemental Report of the Budget Act, that the state agency submits to a committee of the Legislature or to the Members of either house of the Legislature.

Existing law requires the Legislative Counsel to make various categories of legislative information available to the public in an electronic form. This bill additionally requires the Legislative Counsel to make available to the public a link to the list of state and local agency

reports submitted by state and local agencies to a committee of the Legislature or to the Members of either house of the Legislature generally, as specified.

18. Bill Number: SB [372](#) (Menjivar, Chapter 372, Statutes of 2023)

Subject Matter: Department of Consumer Affairs: Licensee and Registrant Records: Name and Gender Changes

Sections Affected: BPC Section 27.5

Effective Date: January 1, 2024

Summary: This bill requires a board to update a licensee’s or registrant’s records, including records contained within an online license verification system, to include the licensee’s or registrant’s updated legal name or gender if the board receives government-issued documentation, as described, from the licensee or registrant demonstrating that the licensee or registrant’s legal name or gender has been changed. The bill requires the board to replace references to the licensee’s or registrant’s former name or gender with the individual’s current name or gender, as applicable, on the publicly viewable information displayed on the internet about the licensee or registrant.

The bill prohibits a board from publishing information relating to the licensee’s or registrant’s former name or gender online and, instead, requires the board to post an online statement directing the public to contact the board for more information. For specified licensees and registrants, the board is prohibited from posting enforcement records online, but would be required to post an online statement stating that the individual was previously subject to an enforcement action and directing the public to contact the board, as prescribed. The bill provides that all records related to a request to update an individual’s license or registration under the bill would be confidential and not subject to public inspection or disclosure.

The bill requires the board, if requested by a licensee or registrant, to reissue any license created by the board and conferred upon the licensee or registrant. The bill prohibits a board from charging a higher fee for reissuing a document with an updated legal name or gender than the fee it charges for reissuing a document with other updated information.

- **All regulation changes approved by the board since the last sunset review. Include the status of each regulatory change approved by the board.**

Regulation Activity

The following regulatory changes were enacted by the Board since the Last Sunset Review or are currently in progress:

1. Subject Matter: Telemedicine

Sections Affected: CCR § 2032.1

Effective Date: January 1, 2020

Summary: This proposal would add subsections (e) and (f) to CCR section 2032.1 to clarify unprofessional conduct in terms of the requirement to establish a VCPR when telemedicine services are provided. This proposal would better define the VCPR and how that relationship must be established through in-person examination before telephone or video services can be rendered to the patient. By adding subsection (f) to section 2032.1, the Board seeks to clarify that telemedicine cannot be provided until a VCPR has been established, apart from emergency situations.

2. Subject Matter: Consumer Protection Enforcement Initiative (CPEI)

Sections Affected: CCR § 2003, 2017, and 2042

Effective Date: April 1, 2020

Summary: The proposal would implement the DCA’s CPEI to overhaul the enforcement process at the healing arts boards and reduce the average enforcement completion timeline. DCA encouraged healing arts boards to pursue regulatory action to assist the boards with investigating and prosecuting complaints in a timely manner, and to provide the boards with tools to improve the enforcement process and ensure patient safety.

The proposal would provide the Board with the means to expedite the licensure and enforcement process by: (1) delegating to the Board’s executive officer settlement agreement authority, applicant investigation and evaluation, and license issuance; (2) permitting the Board to require the examination of an applicant who may be impaired by a physical or mental illness affecting competency; and (3) further defining grounds for discipline. These changes would provide the Board with greater ability to protect the public by receiving more timely information from licensees and quicker disciplinary resolution. These changes also would provide quicker applicant investigations and subsequent license, registration, and permit issuance.

3. Subject Matter: Substantially Related Criteria Regarding Criminal Convictions

Sections Affected: CCR § 2040 and 2041

Effective Date: November 19, 2020

Summary: This proposal is mandated by AB 2138 (Chiu, Chapter 995, Statutes of 2018) and must be implemented by July 1, 2020. As specified in the legislative analyses of AB 2138, this proposal seeks to reduce barriers to licensure for individuals with prior criminal convictions, which may reduce recidivism and provide economic opportunity to California’s residents. In addition, the proposal seeks to improve clarity, transparency, and consistency for applicants and licensees in the Board’s use of their criminal histories.

4. Subject Matter: Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationships (VCPRs)

Sections Affected: CCR §§ 2032.15 and 2032.25

Effective Date: April 1, 2021

Summary: This proposal seeks to provide clarity to the regulations regarding delegated veterinarian VCPR authority.

5. Subject Matter: RVT Job Tasks

Sections Affected: CCR § 2036

Effective Date: April 1, 2021

Summary: The purpose of this proposal is to allow RVTs to perform additional animal health care tasks under indirect veterinarian supervision

6. Subject Matter: RVT Emergency Animal Care

Sections Affected: CCR § 2069

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Summary: The Board seeks to clarify BPC section 4840.5 and the conditions under which an RVT may provide emergency treatment, the emergency treatment that may be provided, and an RVT’s authority to administer drugs or controlled substances.

7. Subject Matter: Animal Physical Rehabilitation (APR)

Sections Affected: CCR § 2038.5

Effective Date: January 1, 2022

Summary: The regulatory proposal is intended to address the growing practice of APR performed by individuals who are not licensed by the Board. Currently, licensed physical therapists and unlicensed individuals are practicing APR on animals. However, licensed physical therapists are only licensed by the Physical Therapy Board of California to perform physical therapy on humans, not animals, and persons not licensed by the Board to perform veterinary medicine on animals are considered veterinary assistants, who are not licensed or registered with the Board. The proposal would establish a clear definition of APR in the Board's regulations, clarify who may perform APR, and clarify the circumstances under which a person may perform APR.

8. Subject Matter: Disciplinary Guidelines

Sections Affected: CCR § 2006

Effective Date: April 1, 2022

Summary: The proposal would make amendments to the Board's Disciplinary Guidelines and CCR section 2006 to update the Guidelines to statutory and probationary changes, clarify the minimum and maximum penalties for a disciplinary decision, and clearly define the terms of supervision for a respondent on probation. The proposal also adopted new supervision requirements and other optional terms for probationers. Further, this proposal also replaces ambiguous terms in the Disciplinary Guidelines with language pre-defined in the Act.

9. Subject Matter: Drug Compounding

Sections Affected: CCR § 2090 - 2096

Effective Date: April 1, 2022

Summary: The regulatory proposal is intended to provide guidance and an enforcement mechanism for inspectors to determine whether veterinarians and RVTs are preparing drug compounds in accordance with their scope of practice, experience, and premises. The rulemaking is necessary to provide veterinarians with guidance on the proper procedures for storing, handling, and preparing compounded drugs.

10. Subject Matter: Civil Penalties for Citations

Sections Affected: CCR § 2043

Effective Date: April 1, 2023

Summary: This proposal removed limiting language from existing regulation and enhanced the Board's enforcement mechanisms and consumer protection by incentivizing compliance for less egregious violations.

11. Subject Matter: RVT Equivalent Experience and Education

Sections Affected: CCR § 2068.5

Status: Submitted to OAL on November 27, 2023

Summary: This proposal clarifies RVT instructor qualifications and removes the requirement that coursework and experience must be completed within designated timeframes.

12. Subject Matter: Uniform Standards

Sections Affected: California Code of Regulations (CCR) § 2027, 2027.5

Status: Submitted to OAL on December 28, 2023

Summary: The proposed regulation would establish uniform standards when the Board has determined that a licensee is a substance abuser.

13. Subject Matter: Drug Compounding

Sections Affected:

Status:

Summary:

14. Subject Matter: Minimum Standards for Alternate Veterinary Premises

Sections Affected:

Effective Date or Status:

Summary:

15. Subject Matter: Medical Records

Sections Affected:

Effective Date or Status:

Summary:

4. Describe any major studies conducted by the board (cf. Section 12, Attachment C).

There have been no major studies since the last Sunset Review.

5. List the status of all national associations to which the board belongs.

The Board is a current member of the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB). AAVSB is an association of veterinary medicine regulatory boards whose membership includes licensing bodies in 63 jurisdictions, including all of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and ten Canadian provinces. AAVSB's mission is to support and advance the regulatory process for veterinary medicine.

In addition, the Board had one representative (Kathy Bowler, MDC Public Member) on the International Council for Veterinary Assessment (ICVA). The ICVA provides national veterinary assessments including the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE). The ICVA collaborates with stakeholders in academia, licensing boards, and practicing veterinarians to ensure their tools can effectively assess the knowledge and skills required for veterinary practice. The AAVSB has four elected representatives on the ICVA Board of Directors. Ms. Bowler is currently serving in her second term as an AAVSB Representative to the ICVA. Ms. Bowler was elected to an initial three-year term on the ICVA Board in September 2015 and reelected to a second term in September 2018.

The Board is also a member of the Council on Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation (CLEAR). CLEAR is an association of individuals, agencies and organizations that comprise the international community of professional and occupational regulation, providing a forum for improving the quality and understanding of regulation to enhance public protection. The Board's membership is part of a Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) organizational membership and does come with voting privileges represented by a single organization vote.

• Does the board's membership include voting privileges?

The Board's AAVSB membership includes one voting delegate (and an alternate delegate). The ICVA Board representative also has voting privileges.

• **List committees, workshops, working groups, task forces, etc., on which the board participates.**

ICVA Board of Directors (BD), September 2015-Present Board Representative: Kathy Bowler

ICVA NAVLE Pool Review Committee (NPRC), 2015-Present Board Representative: Kathy Bowler

ICVA Governance Working Group (GWG), 2016 – Present Board Representative: Kathy Bowler

AAVSB Member Services Task Force (MSTF), 2017-Present Board Representative: Kathy Bowler

ICVA Talent Management Committee (TMC), 2018 – Present Board Representative: Kathy Bowler

Veterinary Technician Education Equivalence Subcommittee (VTEES), August 2018-Present Board Representative: Jennifer Loreda, RVT

Regulatory Policy Task Force (RPTF), November 2018 - Present Board Representative: Dr. Richard Sullivan, DVM

The RPTF finalizes policy statements and recommends changes to bylaws or any previous policy statements or issues in the Model Practice Act. The Regulatory Policy Task Force's overall responsibility is to review, revise, and develop model language that serves as a tool for the AAVSB Member Boards to utilize when considering updates to jurisdiction statute and rules and regulations.

[will add updated list]

Executive Director Advisory Committee (EDAC), November 2018 - Present Board Representative: Executive Officer

The EDAC serves as a think tank for existing and proposed programs and services that the AAVSB could improve or develop to assist all member boards to be more efficient and effective. The EDAC provides input for AAVSB programming that would be of benefit to member board executive directors and staff. In addition, the EDAC supplies veterinary board operational perspective to assist AAVSB staff and leadership.

AAVSB Member and Program Services Think Tank (MPSTT), 2019 – Present Board Representative: Kathy Bowler

Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence (PAVE) for RVTs, June 2019 – Present Board Representative: Jennifer Loreda, RVT

PAVE is the pathway for veterinarians who are graduates of international, non-accredited veterinary programs, to practice in the United States. Ms. Loreda recently joined PAVE to assist with their PAVE-equivalent program for RVTs.

• **How many meetings did board representative(s) attend? When and where?**

[add list]

• **If the board is using a national exam, how is the board involved in its development, scoring, analysis, and administration?**

As previously stated, the Board has representation on the ICVA. The NAVLE, administered by ICVA since 2000, is a requirement for licensure to practice veterinary medicine in all licensing jurisdictions in the U.S. and Canada. The NAVLE consists of 360 clinically relevant multiple-choice questions.

The Veterinary Technician National Exam (VTNE) is the national examination required for a registered veterinary technician license in California. It is owned and administered by AAVSB.

While the Board is an active member in AAVSB, it has not been directly involved in its development, scoring, analysis or administration.

The Board utilizes the services of the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Office of Professional Examination Services to conduct a review of the national examination every seven years. The purpose of the review is to determine whether the examination meets the professional guidelines and technical standards outlined in the Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing (2014)) and the California Business and Professions Code (BPC) Section 139. The NAVLE conducts an occupational analysis every seven years. Its last occupational analysis was completed in 2017.

OPES reviewed the NAVLE in 2020. [add status update]

Section 2 – Fiscal and Staff

Fiscal Issues

6. Is the board’s fund continuously appropriated? If yes, please cite the statute outlining this continuous appropriation.

No, the Board’s fund is not continuously appropriated. The Board’s fund appropriation is developed annually and is subject to Legislative approval.

7. Describe the board’s current reserve level, spending, and if a statutory reserve level exists.

8. Describe if/when a deficit is projected to occur and if/when a fee increase or reduction is anticipated. Describe the fee changes (increases or decreases) anticipated by the board.

Table 2. Fund Condition						
(Dollars in Thousands)	FY 2019/20	FY 2020/21	FY 2021/22	FY 2022/23	FY 2023/24	FY 2024/25
Beginning Balance	\$2,047	\$2,946	\$5,227	\$6,887		
Revenues and Transfers	\$6,125	\$7,607	\$7,520	\$8,467		
Total Revenue	\$8,172	\$7,607	\$7,520	\$15,354	\$	\$
Budget Authority						
Expenditures	\$5,502	\$5,326	\$7,467	\$7,084		
Loans to General Fund				\$0		
Accrued Interest, Loans to General Fund				\$0		
Loans Repaid From General Fund				\$157		
Fund Balance	\$2,670	\$5,227	\$ 5,280	\$8,270	\$	\$
Months in Reserve	4.6	8.4	8.5	14.3		

9. Describe the history of general fund loans. When were the loans made? When have payments been made to the board? Has interest been paid? What is the remaining balance?

There is no history of general fund loans.

10. Describe the amounts and percentages of expenditures by program component. Use Table 3. Expenditures by Program Component to provide a breakdown of the expenditures by the board in each program area. Expenditures by each component (except for pro rata) should be broken out by personnel expenditures and other expenditures.

Table 3. Expenditures by Program Component									(list dollars in thousands)
	FY 2020/21		FY 2021/22		FY 2022/23		FY 2023/24		
	Personnel Services	OE&E	Personnel Services	OE&E	Personnel Services	OE&E	Personnel Services	OE&E	
Enforcement									
Examination									
Licensing									
Administration *									
DCA Pro Rata									
Diversion (if applicable)									
TOTALS	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	

*Administration includes costs for executive staff, board, administrative support, and fiscal services.

11. Describe the amount the board has contributed to the BreEZe program.

12. Describe license renewal cycles and history of fee changes in the last 10 years. Give the fee authority (Business and Professions Code and California Code of Regulations citation) for each fee charged by the board.

Table 4. Fee Schedule and Revenue								(list revenue dollars in thousands)
Fee	Current Fee Amount	Statutory Limit	FY 2020/21 Revenue	FY 2021/22 Revenue	FY 2022/23 Revenue	FY 2023/24 Revenue	% of Total Revenue	

13. Describe Budget Change Proposals (BCPs) submitted by the board in the past four fiscal years.

Table 5. Budget Change Proposals (BCPs)								
BCP ID #	Fiscal Year	Description of Purpose of BCP	Personnel Services				OE&E	
			# Staff Requested (include classification)	# Staff Approved (include classification)	\$ Requested	\$ Approved	\$ Requested	\$ Approved

Staffing Issues

- 14. Describe any board staffing issues/challenges, i.e., vacancy rates, efforts to reclassify positions, staff turnover, recruitment and retention efforts, succession planning.**

- 15. Describe the board’s staff development efforts and total spent annually on staff development (cf., Section 12, Attachment D).**

Section 3 – Licensing Program

- 16. What are the board’s performance targets/expectations for its licensing² program? Is the board meeting those expectations? If not, what is the board doing to improve performance?**

- 17. Describe any increase or decrease in the board’s average time to process applications, administer exams and/or issue licenses. Have pending applications grown at a rate that exceeds completed applications? If so, what has been done by the board to address them? What are the performance barriers and what improvement plans are in place? What has the board done and what is the board going to do to address any performance issues, i.e., process efficiencies, regulations, BCP, legislation?**

- 18. How many licenses or registrations has the board denied over the past four years based on criminal history that is determined to be substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of the profession, pursuant to BPC § 480? Please provide a breakdown of each instance of denial and the acts the board determined were substantially related.**

² The term “license” in this document includes a license certificate or registration.

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Table 6. Licensee Population					
		FY 2020/21	FY 2021/22	FY 2022/23	FY 2023/24
Veterinarian	Active ³	15,400	15,817	13,396	
	Out of State			2,003	
	Out of Country			43	
	Delinquent/Expired			2,529	
	Retired Status <i>if applicable</i>			463	
	Inactive			391	
	Other ⁴				
RVT	Active	10,071	10,518	8,439	
	Out of State			439	
	Out of Country			3	
	Delinquent/Expired			2,281	
	Retired Status <i>if applicable</i>			203	
	Inactive			386	
	Other				
VACSP	Active	8,616	10,126	7,102	
	Out of State			9	
	Out of Country			0	
	Delinquent/Expired			5,086	
	Retired Status <i>if applicable</i>			31	
	Inactive			0	
	Other				
Veterinary Premises	Active	4,209	4,288	3,886	
	Out of State	0	0	643	
	Out of Country	0	0	0	
	Delinquent/Expired			574	
	Retired Status <i>if applicable</i>	N/A	N/A	N/A	
	Inactive			0	
	Other				
Note: 'Out of State' and 'Out of Country' are two mutually exclusive categories. A licensee should not be counted in both.					

³ Active status is defined as able to practice. This includes licensees that are renewed, current, and active.

⁴ Other is defined as a status type that does not allow practice in California, other than retired or inactive.

Table 7a. Licensing Data by Type - Veterinarian										
Application Type	Received	Approved/Issued	Closed	Pending Applications			Cycle Times			
				Total (Close of FY)	Complete (within Board control)*	Incomplete (outside Board control)*	Complete Apps	Incomplete Apps	combined, IF unable to separate out	
FY 2021/22	(Exam)				-	-	-	-	-	-
	(License)				-	-	-	-	-	-
	(Renewal)			n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-
FY 2022/23	(Exam)									
	(License)									
	(Renewal)			n/a						
FY 2023/24	(Exam)									
	(License)									
	(Renewal)			n/a						

* Optional. List if tracked by the board.

Table 7a. Licensing Data by Type – Registered Veterinary Technician										
Application Type	Received	Approved/Issued	Closed	Pending Applications			Cycle Times			
				Total (Close of FY)	Complete (within Board control)*	Incomplete (outside Board control)*	Complete Apps	Incomplete Apps	combined, IF unable to separate out	
FY 2021/22	(Exam)				-	-	-	-	-	-
	(License)				-	-	-	-	-	-
	(Renewal)			n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-
FY 2022/23	(Exam)									
	(License)									
	(Renewal)			n/a						
FY 2023/24	(Exam)									
	(License)									
	(Renewal)			n/a						

* Optional. List if tracked by the board.

Table 7a. Licensing Data by Type - Premises										
Application Type	Received	Approved/Issued	Closed	Pending Applications			Cycle Times			
				Total (Close of FY)	Complete (within Board control)*	Incomplete (outside Board control)*	Complete Apps	Incomplete Apps	combined, IF unable to separate out	
FY 2021/22	(Exam)				-	-	-	-	-	-
	(License)				-	-	-	-	-	-
	(Renewal)			n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-
FY 2022/23	(Exam)									
	(License)									
	(Renewal)			n/a						
FY 2023/24	(Exam)									
	(License)									
	(Renewal)			n/a						

* Optional. List if tracked by the board.

Table 7a. Licensing Data by Type – Veterinary Assistant Controlled Substance Permit										
Application Type	Received	Approved/Issued	Closed	Pending Applications			Cycle Times			
				Total (Close of FY)	Complete (within Board control)*	Incomplete (outside Board control)*	Complete Apps	Incomplete Apps	combined, IF unable to separate out	
FY 2021/22	(Exam)				-	-	-	-	-	-
	(License)				-	-	-	-	-	-
	(Renewal)			n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-
FY 2022/23	(Exam)									
	(License)									
	(Renewal)			n/a						
FY 2023/24	(Exam)									
	(License)									
	(Renewal)			n/a						

* Optional. List if tracked by the board.

Table 7a. Licensing Data by Type - University										
Application Type	Received	Approved/Issued	Closed	Pending Applications			Cycle Times			
				Total (Close of FY)	Complete (within Board control)*	Incomplete (outside Board control)*	Complete Apps	Incomplete Apps	combined, IF unable to separate out	
FY 2021/22	(Exam)				-	-	-	-	-	-
	(License)				-	-	-	-	-	-
	(Renewal)			n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-
FY 2022/23	(Exam)									
	(License)									
	(Renewal)			n/a						
FY 2023/24	(Exam)									
	(License)									
	(Renewal)			n/a						

* Optional. List if tracked by the board.

Table 7b. License Denial			
	FY 2021/22	FY 2022/23	FY 2023/24
License Applications Denied (no hearing requested)			
SOIs Filed			
Average Days to File SOI (from request for hearing to SOI filed)			
SOIs Declined			
SOIs Withdrawn			
SOIs Dismissed (license granted)			
License Issued with Probation / Probationary License Issued			
Average Days to Complete (from SOI filing to outcome)			

19. How does the board verify information provided by the applicant?

- a. **What process does the board use to check prior criminal history information, prior disciplinary actions, or other unlawful acts of the applicant? Has the board denied any licenses over the last four years based on the applicant’s failure to disclose information on the application, including failure to self-disclose criminal history? If so, how many times and for what types of crimes (please be specific)?**

The Board requires all applicants to complete state and federal fingerprinting through live scan or hard card prior to licensure. The Board does not require applicants to answer disciplinary action and conviction/felony questions prior to licensure.

From fiscal year 19/20 through 22/23, the Board denied 0 licenses based on the applicant’s failure to disclose criminal history information.

- b. **Does the board fingerprint all applicants?**

Yes, every applicant is required to obtain fingerprint clearance prior to licensure.

- c. **Have all current licensees been fingerprinted? If not, explain.**

Yes, all current licensees have been fingerprinted.

d. Is there a national databank relating to disciplinary actions? Does the board check the national databank prior to issuing a license? Renewing a license?

The Veterinary Information Verifying Agency (VIVA) is the national database relating to disciplinary actions, and it is maintained by the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) on behalf of California and 56 other licensing jurisdictions in the United States, Canada, and the U.S. Territories. VIVA is somewhat limited, however, as only 50% of states report to VIVA. The Board receives regular reports from the AAVSB and checks the national databank prior to issuing a license.

Due to the lack of other state participation, the Board cannot solely rely on VIVA. In addition to checking VIVA, the Board requires a letter of good standing from all state boards where applicants indicate they are licensed prior to licensure. The board also requires State and Federal LiveScan fingerprinting of veterinarian and veterinary technician applicants. Once licensees have been fingerprinted, the Board receives subsequent arrest reports.

The Board does not check the database prior to renewing a license; however, if a report is received that indicates that a licensee has been disciplined in another state, the Board takes reciprocal action that could lead to either sanctions against the license or revocation, depending on the type of violations. Additionally, renewal applications include a self-certification that inquires whether the licensee has been found guilty or pled no contest to a criminal conviction since their last license renewal.

[will add update regarding the interface with AAVSB and the Board's involvement in encouraging all jurisdictions to report]

e. Does the board require primary source documentation?

Yes, the Board requires primary source documentation such as transcripts, examination scores, and fingerprint clearances. The Board also considers transcripts and examination scores held in AAVSB's VIVA database to be primary source verified.

20. Describe the board's legal requirement and process for out-of-state and out-of-country applicants to obtain licensure.

The Board utilizes the VIVA database, fingerprinting, Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence (PAVE), and Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates (ECFVG) to process out-of-state and out-of-country applicants. The PAVE and ECFVG programs assess the educational equivalency of out-of-country degrees in veterinary medicine to those programs that are approved by the American Veterinary Medicine Association (AVMA).

21. Describe the board's process, if any, for considering military education, training, and experience for purposes of licensing or credentialing requirements, including college credit equivalency.

a. Does the board identify or track applicants who are veterans? If not, when does the board expect to be compliant with BPC § 114.5?

Yes. [add military stats]

b. How many applicants offered military education, training or experience towards meeting licensing or credentialing requirements, and how many applicants had such education, training or experience accepted by the board?

In order to obtain a veterinarian license, the applicant must have graduated from an accredited school/college of veterinary medicine. The Board does not evaluate education, training, or experience in lieu of a degree.

RVT applicants are able to submit clinical practice experience in lieu of graduating from an approved college (BPC § [4841.5\(b\)\(2\)](#); CCR § [2068.5](#)).

c. What regulatory changes has the board made to bring it into conformance with BPC § 35?

The Board has not made regulatory changes to accept military training or experience.

d. How many licensees has the board waived fees or requirements for pursuant to BPC § 114.3, and what has the impact been on board revenues?

The Board has waived renewal fees and requirements for X licensees in the past four fiscal years:

- FY 20/21 -
- FY 21/22 -
- FY 22/23 –
- FY 23/24

There has been a minimal impact on Board revenue (-\$xxx) from BPC § 114.3.

e. How many applications has the board expedited pursuant to BPC § 115.5?

In the past four fiscal years, the Board expedited X applications pursuant to BPC § 115.5:

- FY 20/21 -
- FY 21/22 -
- FY 22/23 –
- FY 23/24

22. Does the board send No Longer Interested notifications to DOJ on a regular and ongoing basis? Is this done electronically? Is there a backlog? If so, describe the extent and efforts to address the backlog.

The Board is currently utilizing the NLI process through the BreEZe database. The NLI process is completed electronically and there is no backlog.

Examinations

Table 8. Examination Data⁵			
California Examination (include multiple language) if any:			
	License Type	Veterinarian	RVT
	Exam Title	CSB	CVTE
FY 2020/21	Number of Candidates	601	
	Overall Pass %	84	
	Overall Fail %	16	
FY 2021/22	Number of Candidates	122	
	Overall Pass %	76	
	Overall Fail %	24	
FY 2022/23	Number of Candidates		
	Overall Pass %		
	Overall Fail %		
FY 2023/24	Number of Candidates	N/A	
	Overall Pass %	N/A	
	Overall Fail %	N/A	
	Date of Last OA		
	Name of OA Developer		
	Target OA Date		

⁵ This table includes all exams for all license types as well as the pass/fail rate. Include as many examination types as necessary to cover all exams for all license types.

National Examination (include multiple language) if any:			
	License Type	Veterinarian	RVT
	Exam Title	NAVLE	VTNE
FY 2020/21	Number of Candidates	450	
	Overall Pass %	99	
	Overall Fail %	1	
FY 2021/22	Number of Candidates	588	
	Overall Pass %	97	
	Overall Fail %	3	
FY 2022/23	Number of Candidates		
	Overall Pass %		
	Overall Fail %		
FY 2023/24	Number of Candidates		
	Overall Pass %		
	Overall Fail %		
	Date of Last OA		
	Name of OA Developer		
	Target OA Date		

23. Describe the examinations required for licensure. Is a national examination used? Is a California specific examination required? Are examinations offered in a language other than English?

Currently, applicants wishing to become licensed as a veterinarian must take and pass a national exam, a state-specific examination, and a law exam. Applicants wishing to become registered as veterinary technicians must take only the national exam. All exams are in English and the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE) and the Veterinary Technician National Exam (VTNE) are also administered in French.

24. What are pass rates for first time vs. retakes in the past 4 fiscal years? (Refer to Table 8: Examination Data) Are pass rates collected for examinations offered in a language other than English?

25. Is the board using computer-based testing? If so, for which tests? Describe how it works. Where is it available? How often are tests administered?

The NAVLE and the VTNE are computer-based examinations.

Applicants taking the NAVLE are allowed to take the examination four times within a 12-month period. When NAVLE candidates are approved, they are submitted into the Prometric scheduling system through ICVA’s testing coordinator, and individual NAVLE Scheduling and Admission Permits are created for each candidate. The candidate uses the permit to set up their testing appointment with Prometric, and then takes the permit and their current, government-issued photo ID with signature (such as a driver’s license or passport) with them to the Prometric Testing Center to check in on the day of their appointment. There is an individualized code on the permit which the candidate then uses to begin their NAVLE at their assigned workstation within the Prometric Testing Center. Prometric staff handle all proctoring

duties, and the test file is sent to ICVA's testing coordinator (NBME) after completion of the examination. Scoring is handled at NBME, and score reports are released electronically to candidates and licensing boards approximately four weeks after the completion of each testing window.

The NAVLE is given in two testing windows each year - one window of four weeks from mid-November to mid- December, and one window of two weeks in April. The NAVLE is administered in 20 locations throughout California. NAVLE candidates who wish to be licensed in California but are physically located in another location at the time of the test (for example, a candidate with family in California who is attending school at the University of Edinburgh) may take their test at the Prometric center in their physical location, and their score report will be made available to the California board once the reports come out for that testing window.

[add info about VTNE]

26. Are there existing statutes that hinder the efficient and effective processing of applications and/or examinations? If so, please describe.

The Board has not identified any statutes that hinder the efficient and effective processing of applications and/or examinations at this time.

27. When did the Board last conduct an occupational analysis that validated the requirement for a California-specific examination? When does the Board plan to revisit this issue? Has the Board identified any reason to update, revise, or eliminate its current California-specific examination?

School approvals

28. Describe legal requirements regarding school approval. Who approves your schools? What role does BPPE have in approving schools? How does the board work with BPPE in the school approval process?

The Board approves all schools offering a curriculum for training registered veterinary technicians and also requires approval by the Bureau of Private Postsecondary Education (BPPE) for all private veterinary technology programs that are approved directly by the Board. (BPC §§ [4841.5](#), [4843](#))

Additionally, all schools accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) shall be deemed by the Board to have met the minimum requirements for approved schools (CCR §§ [2064](#), [2065](#)).

All other veterinary colleges must have academic standards equivalent to schools accredited by the AVMA to be recognized by the Board (CCR § [2022](#)).

29. How many schools are approved by the board? How often are approved schools reviewed? Can the board remove its approval of a school?

30. What are the board's legal requirements regarding approval of international schools?

The Board only recognizes the accreditation standards of the AVMA for international veterinary schools (CCR § [2066](#)). Currently, there are no accreditation standards for international RVT schools.

Continuing Education/Competency Requirements

31. Describe the board’s continuing education/competency requirements, if any. Describe any changes made by the board since the last review.

The continuing education for veterinarian and registered veterinary technician license renewal is statutorily required. Veterinarians are required to complete 36 hours of continuing education (CE) every two years, and RVTs are required to complete 20 hours of continuing education every two years. Both continuing education providers and courses must be “approved,” as defined in the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act, and the continuing education must be obtained in subjects related to the practice of veterinary medicine and/or veterinary technology. The continuing education courses must be consistent with current standards and practices beyond the initial academic studies required for initial licensure or registration.

A veterinarian who renews their license on or after January 1, 2018, must complete a minimum of one credit hour of continuing education on the judicious use of medically important antimicrobial drugs, as defined, every four years as part of the continuing education requirement (BPC § [4846.5\(k\)\(1\)](#)).

a. How does the board verify CE or other competency requirements? Has the Board worked with the Department to receive primary source verification of CE completion through the Department’s cloud?

b. Does the board conduct CE audits of licensees? Describe the board’s policy on CE audits.

c. What are consequences for failing a CE audit?

Consequences of failing a CE audit may result in citation or disciplinary action initiated against the licensee depending on the number of deficient hours.

d. How many CE audits were conducted in the past four fiscal years? How many fails? What is the percentage of CE failure?

e. What is the board’s CE course approval policy?

Based on the approval criteria, the Board delegates course approval to its national regulatory agency, the AAVSB Registry for Approved Continuing Education (RACE) for all non-statutorily approved providers and courses (CCR §§ [2085.3](#), [2085.6](#), and [2086.5](#))

f. Who approves CE providers? Who approves CE courses? If the board approves them, what is the board application review process?

AAVSB, through its RACE program. (CCR § [2085.5](#))

g. How many applications for CE providers and CE courses were received? How many were approved?

h. Does the board audit CE providers? If so, describe the board’s policy and process.

The Board does not audit CE providers.

i. Describe the board’s effort, if any, to review its CE policy for purpose of moving toward performance-based assessments of the licensee’s continuing competence.

The Board has not discussed any effort to move toward a performance-based assessment of the licensee’s continuing competence.

Table 8a. Continuing Education	
---------------------------------------	--

Type	Frequency of Renewal	Number of CE Hours Required Each Cycle	Percentage of Licensees Audited
Veterinarian	Every two years	36	
RVT	Every two years	20	
VACSP	Every two years	N/A	

Section 4 – Enforcement Program

32. What are the board’s performance targets/expectations for its enforcement program? Is the board meeting those expectations? If not, what is the board doing to improve performance?

33. Explain trends in enforcement data and the board’s efforts to address any increase in volume, timeframes, ratio of closure to pending cases, or other challenges. What are the performance barriers? What improvement plans are in place? What has the board done and what is the board going to do to address these issues, i.e., process efficiencies, regulations, BCP, legislation?

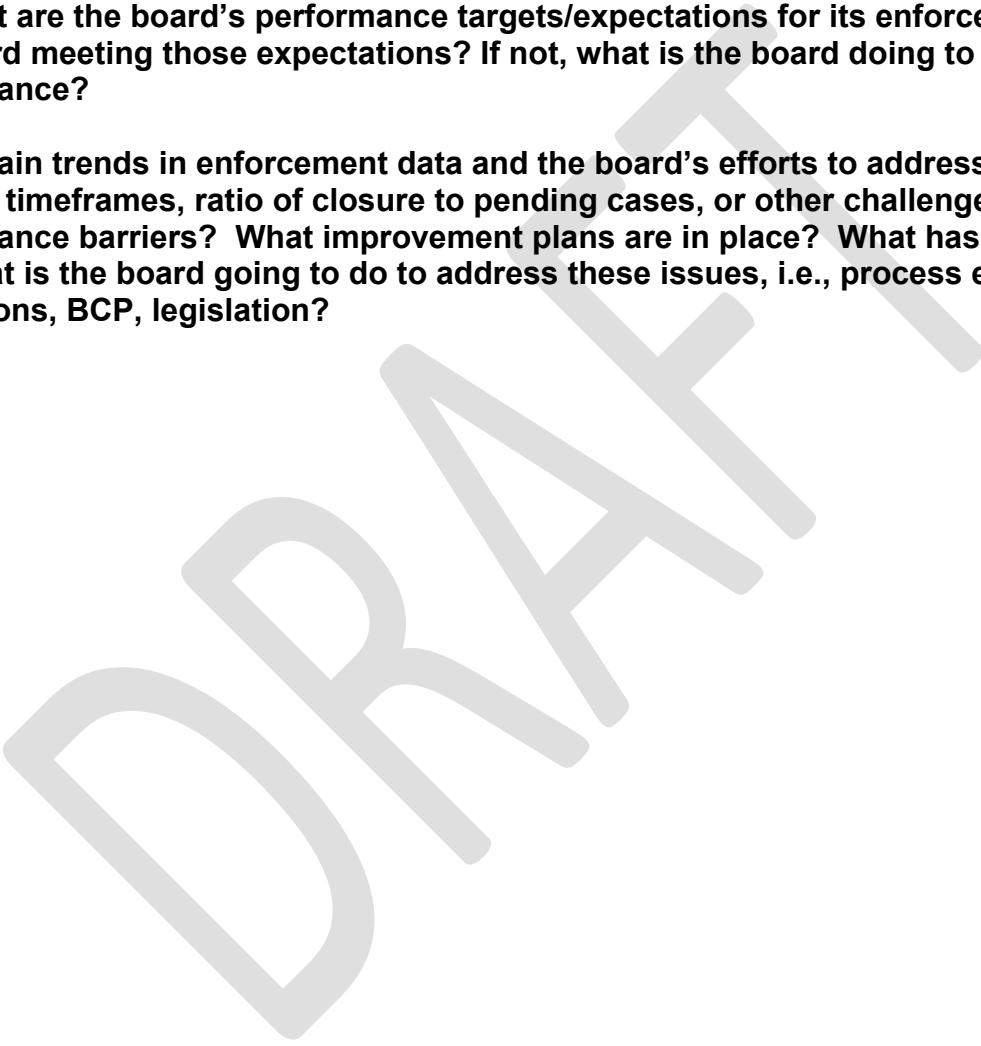


Table 9a. Enforcement Statistics			
	FY 2021/22	FY 2022/23	FY 2023/24
COMPLAINTS			
Intake			
Received	1,505	1,587	
Closed without Referral for Investigation	77	68	
Referred to INV	1,448	1,510	
Pending (close of FY)	16	18	
Conviction / Arrest			
CONV Received	185	210	
CONV Closed Without Referral for Investigation	3	3	
CONV Referred to INV	184	207	
CONV Pending (close of FY)	1	0	
Source of Complaint ⁶			
Public			
Licensee/Professional Groups			
Governmental Agencies			
Internal			
Other			
Anonymous			
Average Time to Refer for Investigation (from receipt of complaint / conviction to referral for investigation)	34 days	17 days	
Average Time to Closure (from receipt of complaint / conviction to closure at intake)			
Average Time at Intake (from receipt of complaint / conviction to closure or referral for investigation)			
Desk Investigations	1,632	1,717	
Opened	1,297	1,976	
Closed	763	706	
Average days to close (from assignment to investigation closure)	3,818	3,716	
Pending (close of FY)			
Non-Sworn Investigation	1,632	1,717	
Opened	1,297	1,976	
Closed	763	706	
Average days to close (from assignment to investigation closure)	3,818	3,716	
Pending (close of FY)			
Sworn Investigation	0	0	
Opened	0	0	
Closed	-	-	
Average days to close (from assignment to investigation closure)	0	0	
Pending (close of FY)	1,632	1,717	
All investigations ⁷			

⁶ Source of complaint refers to complaints and convictions received. The summation of intake and convictions should match the total of source of complaint.

⁷ The summation of desk, non-sworn, and sworn investigations should match the total of all investigations.

Opened	1,632	1,717	
Closed	1,297	1,976	
Average days for all investigation outcomes (from start investigation to investigation closure or referral for prosecution)			
Average days for investigation closures (from start investigation to investigation closure)			
Average days for investigation when referring for prosecution (from start investigation to referral for prosecution)			
Average days from receipt of complaint to investigation closure	796	717	
Pending (close of FY)	3,818		
CITATION AND FINE			
Citations Issued	48	26	
Average Days to Complete (from complaint receipt / inspection conducted to citation issued)	1,293	1,333	
Amount of Fines Assessed	\$188,750	\$121,000	
Amount of Fines Reduced, Withdrawn, Dismissed	\$14,500	\$15,000	
Amount Collected	\$203,250	\$102,283	
CRIMINAL ACTION			
Referred for Criminal Prosecution	6	0	
Accusations Filed	22	21	
Accusations Declined	0	0	
Accusations Withdrawn	2	0	
Accusations Dismissed		0	
Average Days from Referral to Accusations Filed (from AG referral to Accusation filed)	475	587	
INTERIM ACTION			
ISO & TRO Issued			
PC 23 Orders Issued			
Other Suspension/Restriction Orders Issued			
Referred for Diversion			
Petition to Compel Examination Ordered			
DISCIPLINE			
AG Cases Initiated (cases referred to the AG in that year)	77	91	
AG Cases Pending Pre-Accusation (close of FY)			
AG Cases Pending Post-Accusation (close of FY)			
DISCIPLINARY OUTCOMES			
Revocation	2	1	
Surrender	1	5	
Suspension only	0	0	
Probation with Suspension	0	0	
Probation only	4	13	
Public Reprimand / Public Reproval / Public Letter of Reprimand	1	0	
Other	0	0	

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS			
Proposed Decision			
Default Decision			
Stipulations			
Average Days to Complete After Accusation (from Accusation filed to imposing formal discipline)			
Average Days from Closure of Investigation to Imposing Formal Discipline			
Average Days to Impose Discipline (from complaint receipt to imposing formal discipline)			
PROBATION			
Probations Completed	21	15	
Probationers Pending (close of FY)	59	57	
Probationers Tolleed		12	
Petitions to Revoke Probation / Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation Filed			
SUBSEQUENT DISCIPLINE⁸			
Probations Revoked	0	0	
Probationers License Surrendered	0	3	
Additional Probation Only	1	0	
Suspension Only Added	0	0	
Other Conditions Added Only	0	0	
Other Probation Outcome	0	0	
SUBSTANCE ABUSING LICENSEES			
Probationers Subject to Drug Testing			
Drug Tests Ordered			
Positive Drug Tests			
PETITIONS			
Petition for Termination or Modification Granted	1	3	
Petition for Termination or Modification Denied	0	0	
Petition for Reinstatement Granted	0	1	
Petition for Reinstatement Denied	0	1	
DIVERSION			
New Participants			
Successful Completions			
Participants (close of FY)			
Terminations			
Terminations for Public Threat			
Drug Tests Ordered			
Positive Drug Tests			

⁸ Do not include these numbers in the Disciplinary Outcomes section above.

Table 10. Enforcement Aging						
	FY 2020/21	FY 2021/22	FY 2022/23	FY 2023/24	Cases Closed	Average %
Investigations (Average %)						
Closed Within:						
90 Days	339	274	463			
91 - 180 Days	29	65	86			
181 - 1 Year	36	116	170			
1 - 2 Years	62	145	308			
2 - 3 Years	22	167	300			
Over 3 Years	72	530	649			
Total Investigation Cases Closed	560	1,297	1,976			
Attorney General Cases (Average %)						
Closed Within:						
0 - 1 Year	3					
1 - 2 Years	6					
2 - 3 Years	22					
3 - 4 Years	43					
Over 4 Years						
Total Attorney General Cases Closed	74					

34. What do overall statistics show as to increases or decreases in disciplinary action since last review?

35. How are cases prioritized? What is the board’s compliant prioritization policy? Is it different from DCA’s *Complaint Prioritization Guidelines for Health Care Agencies (August 31, 2009)*? If so, explain why.

Board cases are prioritized pursuant to BPC § [4875.1](#), which is in line with DCA’s Complaint Prioritization Guidelines for Health Care Agencies.

36. Are there mandatory reporting requirements? For example, requiring local officials or organizations, or other professionals to report violations, or for civil courts to report to the board actions taken against a licensee. Are there problems with the board receiving the required reports? If so, what could be done to correct the problems?

Licensees are required to report animal cruelty, animal fighting, and injuries that occur at rodeos. In addition, licensees and applicants are required to be fingerprinted for DOJ and FBI; the Board receives notifications of arrests and convictions tied to these fingerprints. Further the American Association of Veterinary State Boards provides notifications if they have been alerted to a disciplinary action taken against a licensee in another state.

a. What is the dollar threshold for settlement reports received by the board?

\$3,000 for injury/death caused by negligence, error, or omission in practicing or by rendering unauthorized professional services (BPC § [801\(a\)\(2\)](#)).

In addition, every insurer providing liability insurance to a veterinarian licensed pursuant to Chapter 11 (commencing with Section 4800) is mandated to send a complete report to the Veterinary Medical Board of any settlement or arbitration award over ten-thousand dollars

(\$10,000) of a claim or action for damages for death or injury caused by that person's negligence, error, or omission in practice, or rendering of unauthorized professional service (BPC § [801\(d\)](#)).

b. What is the average dollar amount of settlements reported to the board?

37. Describe settlements the board, and Office of the Attorney General on behalf of the board, enter into with licensees.

a. What is the number of cases, pre-accusation, that the board settled for the past four years, compared to the number that resulted in a hearing?

The Board has authority to issue probationary licenses to applicants without sending cases to the Attorney General (AG) Office. These are considered settlements pre-Statement of Issues. The Board does not offer settlements that are transmitted to the AG's Office pre-accusation.

b. What is the number of cases, post-accusation, that the board settled for the past four years, compared to the number that resulted in a hearing?

c. What is the overall percentage of cases for the past four years that have been settled rather than resulted in a hearing?

38. Does the board operate with a statute of limitations? If so, please describe and provide citation. If so, how many cases have been lost due to statute of limitations? If not, what is the board's policy on statute of limitations?

The Board does not have a statute of limitations. However, licensees are required to maintain medical records for three years after the date of the last patient visit; therefore, a complaint submitted for final services provided to a consumer more than three years ago may limit the ability of the Board to take action. Similarly, arresting agencies and courts often purge records of less egregious offenses after three to five years, which makes it difficult to gather information on underlying acts in criminal convictions.

39. Describe the board's efforts to address unlicensed activity and the underground economy.

The Board has the authority to fine unlicensed practitioners of veterinary medicine. In addition, the Board has the authority to request that the California Public Utilities Commission disconnect the phone service of cited individuals advertising unlicensed services. If the Division of Investigation is called to provide investigatory services on a case, they can issue a misdemeanor citation. Further, unlicensed cases may be referred to the district attorney's office for the filing of criminal charges against the individual.

Cite and Fine

40. Discuss the extent to which the board has used cite and fine authority. Discuss any changes from last review and describe the last time regulations were updated and any changes that were made. Has the board increased its maximum fines to the \$5,000 statutory limit?

The Board may issue a citation to a licensee or unlicensed person along with a fine to incentivize compliance with the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act. The Board increased its authority since the last Sunset Review and may issue citations for more egregious violations (Class C) up to the \$5,000 statutory limit. Depending on the violation classification, fines can range from \$250 to \$5,000.

41. How is cite and fine used? What types of violations are the basis for citation and fine?

42. How many informal office conferences, Disciplinary Review Committees reviews and/or Administrative Procedure Act appeals of a citation or fine in the last 4 fiscal years?

43. What are the five most common violations for which citations are issued?

44. What is average fine pre- and post- appeal?

45. Describe the board's use of Franchise Tax Board intercepts to collect outstanding fines.

The Board uses the Franchise Tax Board intercepts program to collect outstanding fines for non-licensees. Three letters are sent to the individual for payment. If no payment is received, the Board sends the individual's information to the accounting office, with copies of the three letters, to forward to the Franchise Tax Board intercepts program. The Board has sent [x] cases to the Franchise Tax Board for collection over the prior four fiscal years.

Cost Recovery and Restitution

46. Describe the board's efforts to obtain cost recovery. Discuss any changes from the last review.

The Board seeks cost recovery for its investigation and enforcement expenses whenever possible. When a case is heard before an administrative law judge, the amount of cost recovery ordered may be reduced by a substantial amount based on the evidence and respondent's ability to pay. Stipulated settlements may contain reduced cost recovery amount in the interest of arriving at an expedited agreement to ensure consumer protection. The total cost recovery amount must be paid six months prior to the end of probation; failure to pay the cost recovery could result in extension of probation. Cost recovery attached to revocation cases usually is ordered to be paid upon successful petition for reinstatement of the license.

47. How many and how much is ordered by the board for revocations, surrenders and probationers? How much do you believe is uncollectable? Explain.

The Board would order all costs incurred during the investigation/prosecution process, as all is collectable. Over the prior four fiscal years, the Board has ordered cost recovery an average of [xx] times per year, with each order averaging [\$X,XXX].

48. Are there cases for which the board does not seek cost recovery? Why?

The Board does not seek cost recovery in discipline resulting from a statement of issues, as it does not have the authority to do so. Further, although cost recovery may be ordered in surrender and revocation cases, the majority of this cost recovery will not be collected until the Board grants a petition for reinstatement of license.

49. Describe the board's use of Franchise Tax Board intercepts to collect cost recovery.

50. Describe the board's efforts to obtain restitution for individual consumers, any formal or informal board restitution policy, and the types of restitution that the board attempts to

collect, i.e., monetary, services, etc. Describe the situation in which the board may seek restitution from the licensee to a harmed consumer.

Table 11. Cost Recovery⁹ (list dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2020/21	FY 2021/22	FY 2022/23	FY 2023/24
Total Enforcement Expenditures				
Potential Cases for Recovery *				
Cases Recovery Ordered				
Amount of Cost Recovery Ordered	\$119,392	\$135,133	\$334,399	
Amount Collected	\$42,799	\$28,393	\$121,657	
* "Potential Cases for Recovery" are those cases in which disciplinary action has been taken based on violation of the license practice act.				

Table 12. Restitution (list dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2020/21	FY 2021/22	FY 2022/23	FY 2023/24
Amount Ordered	\$3,880	\$13,251	\$18,683	
Amount Collected				

DRAFT

⁹ Cost recovery may include information from prior fiscal years.

Section 5 – Public Information Policies

51. How does the board use the internet to keep the public informed of board activities? Does the board post board-meeting materials online? When are they posted? How long do they remain on the board’s website? When are draft-meeting minutes posted online? When does the board post final meeting minutes? How long do meeting minutes remain available online?

The Board utilizes the internet to inform the public of Board activities through social media, the Board website, ListServ, and online webcasts. The Board posts meeting materials online [here](#) and notifies the public through social media and ListServ when these documents are available. The agendas are available a minimum of 10 business days prior to the meetings, and the agenda items are posted prior to the meeting. Final meeting minutes are posted on the Board’s meetings page and are retained forever.

52. Does the board webcast its meetings? What is the board’s plan to webcast future board and committee meetings? How long do webcast meetings remain available online?

The Board webcasts its meetings and plans to continue to webcast future Board and committee meetings for the foreseeable future. Webcasted meetings remain online forever, as they are uploaded to YouTube and direct links are provided on the Board’s meeting webpage [here](#).

53. Does the board establish an annual meeting calendar, and post it on the board’s web site?

Yes, the Board holds quarterly meetings, which are posted on the Board’s [website](#), as well as on the Board’s social media accounts.

54. Is the board’s complaint disclosure policy consistent with DCA’s *Recommended Minimum Standards for Consumer Complaint Disclosure*? Does the board post accusations and disciplinary actions consistent with DCA’s *Web Site Posting of Accusations and Disciplinary Actions (May 21, 2010)*?

The Board’s complaint disclosure policy is consistent with DCA’s [Recommended Minimum Standards for Consumer Complaint Disclosure](#) to the extent that disclosure of any complaint information will not impede or impair current or future investigations and will not discourage or deter the filing of consumer complaints. The Board posts accusations and disciplinary actions consistent with DCA’s Website Posting of Accusations and Disciplinary Actions and the provisions of section 27 of the Business and Professions Code. The Board provides the following information to the public regarding its licensees, registrants, and permit holders:

- licensee’s name;
- address of record;
- license status;
- license type;
- issue date;
- expiration date;
- certification; and,
- disciplinary/enforcement actions.

The Board is consistent with DCA’s Website Posting of Accusations and Disciplinary Actions by attaching all filed accusations, in their entirety, to the respective license profiles in BreEZe; the public can view all enforcement and discipline documents through the Board’s [“Verify a License”](#) link on its website.

55. What information does the board provide to the public regarding its licensees (i.e., education completed, awards, certificates, certification, specialty areas, disciplinary action, etc.)?

The Board provides information through the BreEZe database regarding the licensure of a premises or an individual, including if an individual has any disciplinary action taken against them and the current status of the license, but does not include any awards, certificates, or education information.

56. What methods are used by the board to provide consumer outreach and education?

The Board utilizes its website and social media for consumer outreach and education, as well as encouraging public attendance at Board meetings and holding meetings at veterinary and RVT colleges to encourage future veterinary professionals to participate with the Board. Additionally, Board staff work with various stake holders when developing legislation and regulatory proposals.

Section 6 – Online Practice Issues

57. Discuss the prevalence of online practice and whether there are issues with unlicensed activity. How does the board regulate online practice? Does the board have any plans to regulate internet business practices or believe there is a need to do so?

Section 7 – Workforce Development and Job Creation

58. What actions has the board taken in terms of workforce development?

59. Describe any assessment the board has conducted on the impact of licensing delays.

60. Describe the board's efforts to work with schools to inform potential licensees of the licensing requirements and licensing process.

61. Describe any barriers to licensure and/or employment the board believes exist.

In order to reduce barriers to veterinary technician registration, the Board voted in April 2019 to discontinue the administration of the California Veterinary Technician Examination (CVTE). The Board will also review its other state licensure exams to make sure they meet what is outlined in statutes and regulations.

62. Provide any workforce development data collected by the board, such as:

a. Workforce shortages

b. Successful training programs.

The Board does not have the resources to do independent studies on workforce shortages and training programs and has not collected such data. However, professional veterinary associations regularly compile workforce shortage information and information on training programs, and the workforce and training program data is available to the Board.

63. What efforts or initiatives has the board undertaken that would help reduce or eliminate inequities experienced by licensees or applicants from vulnerable communities, including

low- and moderate-income communities, communities of color, and other marginalized communities, or that would seek to protect those communities from harm by licensees?

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Section 8 – Current Issues

64. What is the status of the board’s implementation of the Uniform Standards for Substance Abusing Licensees?

The Board submitted its Uniform Standards for Substance Abusing Licensees regulatory package to OAL on December 28, 2023.

65. What is the status of the board’s implementation of the Consumer Protection Enforcement Initiative (CPEI) regulations?

The Board’s CPEI regulations become effective on April 1, 2020.

66. Describe how the board is participating in development of BreEZe and any other secondary IT issues affecting the board.

a. Is the board utilizing BreEZe? What Release was the board included in? What is the status of the board’s change requests?

The Board began utilizing BreEZe in January 2016 in DCA’s second release. There are currently [xx] improvement requests pending.

b. If the board is not utilizing BreEZe, what is the board’s plan for future IT needs? What discussions has the board had with DCA about IT needs and options? What is the board’s understanding of Release 3 boards? Is the board currently using a bridge or workaround system?

N/A

Section 9 – Board Actions and Responses to COVID-19.

67. In response to COVID-19, did the board take any steps or implement any policies regarding licensees or consumers? Has the board implemented any statutory revisions, updates or changes that were necessary to address the COVID-19 Pandemic? Any additional changes needed to address a future State of Emergency Declaration.

Section 10 – Board Action and Response to Prior Sunset Issues

Include the following:

1. Background information concerning the issue as it pertains to the board.
2. Short discussion of recommendations made by the Committees during prior sunset review.
3. What action the board took in response to the recommendation or findings made under prior sunset review.
4. Any recommendations the board has for dealing with the issue, if appropriate.

1. **(FEE INCREASES) The Board has levied multiple fee increases over the years, reaching their legislative statutory maximums. Should the statutory fee caps be raised again?**

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should describe its long-term budget sustainability plan and update the Committees on the Board's budget outlook. The Board should continue to work with the Committees on its request to increase the Board's fee schedule caps and determine the best approach to balance the Board's budgetary needs while minimizing increased financial burden placed on veterinary licensees.

2024 Update:

2. **(RVT ISSUES) Does the Board have sufficient representation of the RVT profession, and are RVT policy issues appropriately addressed?**

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should report on its work related to the RVT profession, and assess whether it can effectively address issues related to RVT examination, continuing education, and approval of RVT schools. The Board should discuss how it is addressing delays regarding RVT-related Board actions or proposed regulatory packages.

2024 Update:

3. **(STAFF RETENTION) The Board is experiencing frequent employee turnover. What solutions should the Board consider in order to improve staff hiring and retention?**

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should continue its focus on filling any existing vacancies, and report on the steps it is taking to improve employee morale and retention. The Board should also discuss how it is ensuring that new hires transition into their roles quickly and effectively. Finally, the Board should update the Committees on projected staff needs in the coming years.

2024 Update:

4. **(BREEZE IMPLEMENTATION) Is any action necessary to ensure the Board can address BreEZe implementation issues?**

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should provide a report on the status of implementing the BreEZe system, and note if it expects any additional or increased maintenance costs in the coming years.

2024 Update:

5. **(MISSING RECORDS) The Board is unable to locate applicant files who were denied a license due to prior criminal convictions. Are the Board's recordkeeping protocols adequate?**

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should attempt to locate any missing files on applicants who were denied a license based on substantially related criminal convictions. The

Board should review existing internal record-keeping protocols and ensure that all files are appropriately maintained.

2024 Update:

6. **(COVID-RELATED WAIVERS) Was the Board able to obtain the necessary emergency waivers to adequately respond to the COVID-19 pandemic while maintaining its consumer protection mandate?**

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should report on its experience requesting COVID-19 related waivers and discuss if those measures were adequate in responding to the circumstances of the pandemic while maintaining consumer protection.

2024 Update:

7. **(LICENSING DELAYS) What solutions does the Board have to address the severe delays in its licensing timelines?**

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should continue to implement strategies to address licensing delays and describe the resource it needs to improve timelines. The Board should continue to monitor licensing performance closely, and report to the Committee with an update during the next Sunset Review.

2024 Update:

8. **(VACSP) Does the Board have recommendations to improve participation in the VACSP program?**

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should report on the implementation of the VACSP license category, and recommend potential actions to improve initial permitting and renewal into this program.

2024 Update:

9. **(RECIPROCITY) Should the Legislature clarify what foreign experience counts towards waiving the Board's examination requirements?**

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should discuss its request to statutorily clarify reciprocity of out-of-state clinical practice experience.

2024 Update:

10. **(ABANDONED APPLICATIONS) Should the Board be able to abandon or remove licensing applications that are several years old?**

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should discuss with the Committees its request to have authority to abandon and application, and speak to what it believes to be an appropriate amount of time before an application can be abandoned.

2024 Update:

11. (CHANGE OF ADDRESS) Should applicants be required to notify the Board of a change of address?

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should report on its request to require applicants to notify to Board of a change of address, and discuss its plans to enforce non-compliance of this proposed provision.

2024 Update:

12. (ELIMINATION OF THE STATE EXAMINATION) Should the California State Board Examination be eliminated based on findings that the national North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE) is sufficient in determining applicant competency?

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should report on its recommendation to eliminate the California State Board Examination and discuss how its proposed statutory changes would impact existing pathways to licensure.

2024 Update:

13. What is the status of the Board's implementation of Assembly Bill 2138 (Chiu/Low) and are any statutory changes needed to enable the Board to better carry out the intent of the Fair Chance Licensing Act?

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should provide an update in regards to its implementation of AB 2138 provisions, as well as relay any recommendations it has for statutory changes.

2024 Update:

14. (ANIMAL SHELTERS) Does the Board have recommendations to address concerns regarding minimum standard of care in animal shelters?

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should discuss its draft regulations regarding minimum standards of care in animal shelters. In addition, the Board should outline any additional recommendations it may have regarding concerns of Veterinarian shortages working in shelter settings, and concerns about facility standards for animal shelters.

2024 Update:

15. (ANIMAL PHYSICAL REHABILITATION) Is further action necessary to clarify the scope, the level of veterinary supervision, and the minimum education and training requirements for providing animal rehabilitation?

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should report back on the work of the Animal Rehabilitation Task Force, and discuss if it has any further recommendations for consideration by the Legislature.

2024 Update:

- 16. (ANIMAL CANNABIS) Does the Board anticipate new emerging animal cannabis issues that would require legislative action?**

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should provide an update on its work related to medicinal cannabis use on animals, and report if it anticipates new issues to emerge in the future regarding this issue.

2024 Update:

- 17. (ANIMAL INJURIES AT RODEO EVENTS) Are current statutes sufficient to safeguard animal welfare at rodeo events, and ensure accurate reporting of animal injuries?**

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should report on its findings regarding the role of veterinary medical professionals at rodeo events and provide any recommendations it has to address concerns regarding animal injuries.

2024 Update:

- 18. (HORSE RACING) Should the Board be involved in monitoring equine welfare in the horse racing industry?**

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should continue to update the Committees on its collaboration with the CHRB.

2024 Update:

- 19. (COLLABORATION WITH THE BOARD OF PHARMACY) Should the Board engage in greater collaboration with the Board of Pharmacy regarding promulgation of regulations that apply to the veterinary profession?**

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should provide its perspective on any recent issues involving pharmacy regulations promulgated by the BOP, including pharmacy compounding, and speak to whether there are any opportunities for greater communication and collaboration between the two boards.

2024 Update:

- 20. (CORPORATE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE) Should existing statutes be updated to ensure appropriate corporate practice of medicine?**

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should report on its legislative recommendations on addressing corporate practice of medicine and provide additional details on the feedback it has received from industry representatives.

2024 Update:

- 21. (DATA COLLECTION ON CORPORATE VETERINARY PRACTICE) Should the Board collect data on corporate ownership of veterinary practices?**

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should discuss the value and the feasibility of collecting data on corporate ownership of veterinary practices.

2024 Update:

- 22. (INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS) Does the new test for determining employment status prescribed by the court decision *Dynamex Operations West Inc. v. Superior Court*, have any unresolved implications for licensees working in the veterinary profession?**

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should inform the committees of any discussions it has had about the Dynamex decision and AB 5, and whether there is potential to impact the current landscape of the veterinary profession, beyond the exemption provided for veterinarians.

2024 Update:

- 23. (TELEHEALTH) Should existing law be amended to increase access to veterinary services via telehealth?**

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should provide the Committees with an update on its discussions around telehealth and telemedicine and advise if there are statutory changes that could facilitate increased access to services while maintaining high standards of veterinary care.

2024 Update:

- 24. (CONTINUING EDUCATION AUDIT) Are there any requirements or resources needed to implement the Board's continuing education audit program?**

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should report on its CE audit program and include information on implementation timelines and audit objectives.

2024 Update:

- 25. (ENFORCEMENT BACKLOGS) Does the Board have any administrative remedies or solutions, beyond requesting additional resources, to address the growing enforcement backlogs and timelines?**

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should inform the Committees on its short-term and long-term strategies to address the growing enforcement backlogs and the increase in investigation timelines. The Board should detail how new resources, if granted, will be used to improve enforcement operations. All efforts should be made to fill any existing vacancies in its Enforcement Unit to further reduce backlogs. The Board should continue to monitor enforcement performance closely, and report to the Committee with an update during the next Sunset Review.

2024 Update:

26. (HOSPITAL INSPECTIONS) How does the Board plan to reach its 20% hospital inspection goal?

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should inform the Committees how it plans to meet the legislatively mandated 20% hospital inspection goals.

2024 Update:

27. (PREMISES REGISTRATION) Does the Board require additional enforcement tools in regards to premises registration and managing licensees?

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should report to the Committees about its recommendations to address loopholes and abuses of the premises permits and the managing licensee designation. The Board should provide details about the prevalence of the problem, and whether the Board needs additional enforcement tools to address the reported abuses.

2024 Update:

28. (DIVERSION PROGRAM COSTS) Should Diversion participants pay the administrative costs of the program?

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should explain its request to change the payment arrangements for individuals wishing to enroll in the Board's Diversion program. The Board should also detail potential timelines and anticipated costs for these changes, and how it would impact current and future Diversion participants.

2024 Update:

29. (DIVERSION EVALUATION COMMITTEE) Should the Board have statutory authority to suspend members of its Diversion Evaluation Committee?

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should report on its request to obtain statutory authority to dismiss a DEC member. If pursuing this change, the Board should discuss the appropriate level of public disclosure that should occur in the event that substantiated evidence found a DEC member relapsing or abusing drugs and/or alcohol.

2024 Update:

30. (VETERINARY SPECIALISTS) Should the Legislature clarify the term "veterinary specialist" for the purpose of public protection?

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should provide a report on its request to add statutory clarity of veterinary specialties and discuss whether additional specialties beyond AVMA-recognized specialty organizations should be considered.

2024 Update:

31. (CITATIONS) Should the Legislature update the Board's process for issuing and contesting citations?

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should review with the Committees its proposed legislative language regarding the process of issuing and contesting citations and describe how these changes would improve the Board's enforcement program and consumer protection function.

2024 Update:

32. (TECHNICAL CLEANUP) Is there a need for technical cleanup?

Committee Staff Recommendation: The Board should work with the Committees to enact any technical changes to the Business and Professions Code needed to add clarity and remove unnecessary language.

2024 Update:

33. (CONTINUATION OF THE BOARD) Should the licensing and regulation of the practice of veterinary medicine be continued to be regulated by the current Board membership?

Committee Staff Recommendation: The practice of veterinary medicine should continue to be regulated by the Veterinary Medical Board in order to protect the interest of the public. The Board should be reviewed by the Committees once again on a future date to be determined.

2024 Update:



This is the opportunity for the board to inform the Committees of solutions to issues identified by the board and by the Committees. Provide a short discussion of each of the outstanding issues, and the board's recommendation for action that could be taken by the board, by DCA or by the Legislature to resolve these issues (i.e., policy direction, budget changes, legislative changes) for each of the following:

1. Issues raised under prior Sunset Review that have not been addressed.
2. New issues identified by the board in this report.
3. New issues not previously discussed in this report.
4. New issues raised by the Committees.

1. Unlicensed Practice Penalties [Strat Plan Goal 4.2]

Discussion:

Legislative Request:

2. Licensure Exemptions [Strat Plan Goal 4.3]

Discussion:

Legislative Request:

3. **20% Veterinary Premises Inspections Mandate** [Strat Plan Goal 4.4]

Discussion:

Legislative Request:

4. **Add RVT to Board Composition** [Strat Plan Goal 4.5]

Discussion:

Legislative Request: Amend BPC section 4800 to add on RVT member. [approve January 2022]

5. **Complaint Prioritization Statute** [Strat Plan Goal 4.6]

Discussion:

Legislative Request:

6. **Authorization for veterinary assistant controlled substance permit (VASP) holders to perform drug compounding.** [Strat Plan Goal 4.7]

Discussion: Existing law authorizes licensed veterinarians and registered veterinary technicians (RVTs) to compound drugs for animal use. VACSP holders cannot currently compound.

During an April 2022 Multidisciplinary Advisory Committee (MDC) meeting, veterinarians and registered veterinary technicians (RVTs) raised concerns that restricting the ability to compound drugs to veterinarians and RVTs negatively impacts access to veterinary care. During public comment, an RVT shared how COVID has negatively impacted an already growing shortage to veterinary care and has significantly increased wait times in emergency hospitals. She went on to explain how she runs a 24-hour veterinary hospital and how, at any given time, there could be four, six, to eight hour wait times for her area. Prohibiting VACSPs from performing compounding tasks, such as adding medications to an IV fluid, further delays treatment for patients (minutes).

The Board subsequently agreed with this assessment. The Board believes not allowing VACSP holders (who are trained and directly supervised) to compound drugs for animal use creates an unnecessary and significant delay in accessing necessary compounded drug preparations.

Legislative Request: The Board requests adding VACSPs to the individuals who are authorized to compound drugs for animal use to BPC § 4826.5 (as shown below). This will increase access to veterinary care by decreasing wait times for patients to receive treatment, and still maintains consumer protection by requiring veterinarian supervision of the VACSP.

4826.5. Notwithstanding any other law, a licensed veterinarian or a registered veterinary technician or veterinary assistant controlled substance permit holder under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian may compound drugs for animal use pursuant to Section 530 of Title 21 of the Code of Federal Regulations and in accordance with regulations promulgated by the board. The regulations promulgated by the board shall, at a minimum, address the storage of drugs, the level and type of supervision required for compounding drugs by a registered veterinary technician or a veterinary assistant controlled substance permit holder, and the equipment necessary for the safe compounding of drugs. Any violation of the regulations adopted by the board pursuant to this section shall constitute grounds for an enforcement or disciplinary action.

7. Clarify Boarding vs. Premises Inspection [Strat Plan Goal 4.8]

Discussion:

Legislative Request:

8. Requirement to Approve All RVT Schools [Strat Plan Goal 4.9]

Discussion: [add brief discussion]

Legislative Request: Amend BPC sections 4841.1, 4841.4, 4841.5, and 4842, and repeal sections 4842.1 and 4843 regarding RVT registration requirements and RVT school or degree program approvals.

9. Out-of-State RVT Applicants

Discussion: BPC section 4841.51 provides three education pathways for RVTs to obtain registration: through an accredited or approved two-year program; through education or a combination of education and clinical experience; or through AAVSB's education equivalency certification program. The statute does not authorize any individual to obtain an RVT registration without completing education. However, CCR, title 16, section 2068.6 provides a pathway for RVTs licensed, certified, or registered in another state to obtain RVT registration in California solely through clinical experience. To maintain out-of-state license reciprocity, the Subcommittee recommends placing the regulation in statute and clearly identifying the experience-only pathway for RVT applicants licensed in another state.

Legislative Request: Amend BPC section 4841.5 regarding RVT registration requirements as follows: [add April 2024 Board approved language]

10. Remove Authority to Approve CE [Strat Plan Goal 4.11]

Discussion:

Legislative Request:

11. Telemedicine Terms [Strat Plan Goal 4.14]

Discussion:

Legislative Request:

12. Copies of Animal Patient Records [Strat Plan Goal 4.15]

Discussion:

Legislative Request: Amend BPC Section 4855 to allow consumers to obtain copies of animal patient records

13. Livestock Definition to Include Commercial Equines [Strat Plan Goal 4.16]

Discussion:

Legislative Request: Amend BPC Section 4825.1 to revise the definition of livestock to include commercial equines.

14. Release of Medical Records [Strat Plan Goal 4.17]

Discussion:

Legislative Request: Amend BPC Section 4857 to require veterinary premises to release animal medical records to treating licensees so these licensees can respond appropriately to Board inquiries.

15. Require Fingerprints for Reinstatement Petitions [Strat Plan Goal 4.18]

Discussion:

Legislative Request: Amend BPC Section 4887 (B) to require submission of fingerprints at the time of petition for reinstatement hearings so the Board can obtain necessary criminal history records in a timely manner.

16. Tolling and Probation Terms [Strat Plan Goal 4.19]

Discussion:

Legislative Request: Amend BPC Section 4887 to exclude time tolling from the time to petition to further probation effectiveness.

17. Discipline Requirements for Premises Registrations [Strat Plan Goal 4.20]

Discussion:

Legislative Request:

**Section 12–
Attachments**

Please provide the following attachments:

- A. Board’s administrative manual.
- B. Current organizational chart showing relationship of committees to the board and membership of each committee (cf., Section 1, Question 1).
- C. Major studies, if any (cf., Section 1, Question 4).

- D. Year-end organization charts for last four fiscal years. Each chart should include number of staff by classifications assigned to each major program area (licensing, enforcement, administration, etc.) (cf., Section 2, Question 15).
- E. Provide each quarterly and annual performance measure report for the board as published on the DCA website.
- F. Provide results for each question in the board's customer satisfaction survey broken down by fiscal year. Discuss the results of the customer satisfaction surveys.

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