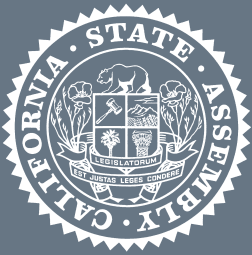


California Legislature

ASSEMBLY BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS

2025 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY



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California Legislature

Assembly Business and Professions Committee



2025 Legislative Bill Summary

Marc Berman
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Vice Chair

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS
HONORABLE MARC BERMAN, CHAIR
HONORABLE HEATH FLORA, VICE CHAIR

The jurisdiction of the Assembly Committee on Business and Professions includes: 1) the regulation of healing arts and non-healing arts professions; 2) licensing and enforcement issues for all boards and bureaus within the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA); 3) creation and elimination of boards, bureaus, and commissions under the DCA (i.e., sunrise and sunset review); 4) occupational licensing; 5) vocational education; 6) certain aspects of the Department of General Services; 7) charitable solicitations; 8) veterinarians and licensing issues; and 9) product labeling (except agricultural and medical product labeling).

Over the course of the 2025 session of the California State Legislature, the Committee held a total of 12 hearings, including three joint Sunset Review hearings and one joint Informational hearing with the Senate Committee on Business, Professions, and Economic Development, and one joint Informational hearing with the Assembly Committee on Housing and Community Development. A total of 91 bills were referred to the Committee during the 2025 legislative year.

Numerous businesses and professions throughout California are regulated under the Business and Professions Code, the Government Code, the Civil Code, and the Health and Safety Code and fall within the Committee's jurisdiction, including:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1) Accountants, tax preparers, and notaries | 19) Interior designers | 32) Physical therapists |
| 2) Acupuncturists | 20) Junk dealers and recyclers, | 33) Physicians and surgeons and Osteopathic physicians and surgeons |
| 3) Architects | pawnbrokers, | 34) Physician assistants |
| 4) Automotive repair | repossessors, and | 35) Podiatrists |
| 5) Barbers and cosmetologists | auctioneers | 36) Private postsecondary education |
| 6) Building standards | 21) Land surveyors | 37) Product labeling |
| 7) Cannabis | 22) Landscape architects | 38) Professional engineers |
| 8) Chiropractors | 23) Marriage and family therapists, licensed | 39) Professional fiduciaries |
| 9) Contractors | clinical social workers, | 40) Psychiatric technicians |
| 10) Court reporters | licensed educational psychologists, and | 41) Psychologists |
| 11) Dentists, dental hygienists, and dental auxiliaries | licensed professional clinical counselors | 42) Real estate brokers, salespersons, and appraisers |
| 12) Dietitians | 24) Martial artists and promoters | 43) Registered nurses |
| 13) Dispensing opticians | 25) Massage therapists | 44) Respiratory care practitioners |
| 14) Electronic and appliance repair, home furnishings, thermal insulation, and household movers | 26) Medical cannabis professionals and businesses | 45) Security and investigative services |
| 15) Franchises | 27) Midwives | 46) Sellers of travel and tour guides |
| 16) Funeral, cemetery, and crematory establishments | 28) Naturopathic doctors | 47) Speech-language pathologists, hearing aid dispensers, and audiologists |
| 17) Geologists and geophysicists | 29) Occupational therapists | |
| 18) Health clubs and gyms | 30) Optometrists and opticians | |
| | 31) Pharmacists and pharmacy licensees | |

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

Assembly Business and Professions Committee

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Animals

AB-463 (Michelle Rodriguez) - Emergency medical services: dogs and cats.

Authorizes ambulance operators to transport police dogs and search-and-rescue dogs to veterinary premises, and authorizes emergency responders to render first aid to these dogs under specified circumstances.

Note: This bill was subsequently amended out of the jurisdiction of the Assembly Business and Professions Committee.

Status: Chapter 98, Statutes of 2025

AB-506 (Bennett) - Contracts: sales of dogs and cats.

Prohibits contracts between a purchaser, as defined, and a person, business, or pet dealer, as defined, for the sale of a dog, cat, or rabbit from including a nonrefundable deposit, requires the seller to disclose specified animal health information to the buyer, and provides consumer remedies and rights of action for sales that violate these laws.

Status: Chapter 477, Statutes of 2025

AB-516 (Kalra) - Registered veterinary technicians and veterinary assistants: scope of practice.

Authorizes registered veterinary technicians (RVTs) and veterinary assistants to perform animal health care services not otherwise prohibited by law or regulation, including on animals housed in public or private animal shelters, humane societies, or societies for the prevention of cruelty to animals.

Status: Chapter 371, Statutes of 2025

AB-519 (Berman) - Pet broker sales.

Prohibits pet brokers, as defined, from selling, making available for sale, or adopting out a dog, cat, or rabbit to a consumer in California, subject to specified exemptions.

Status: Chapter 478, Statutes of 2025

AB-631 (Lee) - Animals: animal shelters: transparency.

Would have required an animal shelter to collect, record, and post data on the number of animals taken in, the source of intake, and animal outcomes, and would have

encouraged private rescue groups to collect and post similar data as required by the shelters.

Note: Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process – Appropriations

AB-867 (Lee) - Veterinary medicine: cat declawing.

Prohibits a person from performing a declawing or similar procedures on any cat unless the person is licensed as a veterinarian in California and the veterinarian is performing the declawing for a therapeutic purpose.

Status: Chapter 479, Statutes of 2025

AB-1382 (Castillo) - Animals: sale of pets: intentional genomic alterations.

Prohibits a person from importing for profit, selling, or offering for sale in California a pet animal that has been modified or developed by intentional genomic alterations, as defined, unless the intentional genomic alteration is to benefit the health of the animal or to enhance the animal's interaction with humans.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Business and Professions

AB-1458 (Wallis) - Physical therapy and veterinary medicine: animal physical therapy.

Authorizes a licensed physical therapist (PT), who meets specified education and experience requirements, to perform animal physical therapy, as defined, either under the direct supervision of a veterinarian or under the indirect supervision of a veterinarian, so long as the PT has an active practice agreement with a veterinarian and the animal patient is referred to the PT by a veterinarian.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Business and Professions

AB-1482 (Castillo) - Bowie's Law: animals: adoption, shelter overcrowding, and breeding.

Would have required an animal shelter provide on its internet website or a third-party website a list of all animals that are available for adoption or being held by the animal shelter, would have required the Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to conduct

a study on animal shelter overcrowding and the feasibility of a statewide database of dogs and cats, and would have expanded the definition of a dog breeder and place additional requirements on sales or transfers of dogs by breeders.

Note: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process – Appropriations

AB-1502 (Committee on Business and Professions) - Veterinary medicine: California Veterinary Medical Board.

Extends the operation of the California Veterinary Medical Board (CVMB) by four years to January 1, 2030, and makes other changes recommended as part of the boards' sunset review.

Status: Chapter 195, Statutes of 2025

SB-312 (Umberg) - Dog importation: health certificates.

Requires individuals to obtain and submit a health certificate to the Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), and to the buyer, when selling or importing dogs into California, and requires the CDFA to retain and make available to the public, upon request, specified information related to the health certificates.

Status: Chapter 480, Statutes of 2025

SB-602 (Cortese) - Veterinarians: veterinarian-client-patient relationship.

Authorizes registered veterinary technicians (RVTs) to establish a veterinarian-client-patient-relationship (VCPR) in certain animal shelter settings for purposes of administering preventive or prophylactic vaccines or medications, without their supervising veterinarian physically present.

Status: Chapter 589, Statutes of 2025

Business and Product Regulation

AB-476 (Mark González) - Metal theft.

Increases fines for crimes related to the possession or purchase of specified items previously owned by a public utility provider or public agency; expands the list of items that a junk dealer is prohibited from possessing to include specified items previously

owned by a public agency or local government; and expands record-keeping requirements for junk dealers, as specified.

Status: Chapter 694, Statutes of 2025

AB-558 (Flora) - Alarm companies.

Amends the definition of “alarm system” in the Alarm Company Act to include video systems in which an analog or digital video signal travels from the camera to video monitoring stations.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Business and Professions

AB-559 (Berman) - Professions and vocations: contractors: home improvement contracts: prohibited business practices.

Expands the definition of “home improvement” to include accessory dwelling units (ADUs) on residentially zoned property, thereby subjecting the construction of ADUs to specific contract and payment rules, and enhances penalties for violations that result in consumer financial harm, as specified.

Note: Placed on the Senate Inactive File.

Status: Senate-In Floor Process

AB-671 (Wicks) - Accelerated restaurant building plan approval.

Requires a local building department or permitting department to allow a qualified professional certifier to certify compliance with applicable building, health, and safety codes for a tenant improvement relating to a restaurant.

Status: Chapter 470, Statutes of 2025

AB-714 (Fong) - California Private Postsecondary Education Act of 2009: exemptions: commercial driving licenses.

Provides that an existing exemption from the California Private Postsecondary Education Act of 2009 for institutions that do not award degrees and that solely provide educational programs for total charges of \$2,500 or less does not apply to institutions that provide any training or curriculum for a Class A, B, or C commercial driving license (CDL).

Note: Made a two-year bill by the Assembly Appropriations Committee after being placed on the suspense file.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process – Appropriations

AB-1101 (Nguyen) - Plastic Bulk Merchandise Containers: proof of ownership.

Requires any person or entity purchasing or transporting five or more plastic bulk merchandise containers for their recycling, shredding, or destruction to obtain the email address of the seller or the seller's authorized representative.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process – Appropriations

AB-1107 (Flora) - Cigarette and Tobacco Products Licensing Act of 2003: nitrous oxide: licensure.

Would have empowered the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration to deny, suspend, or revoke a license for a retailer to sell cigarettes or tobacco products if the retailer has been convicted of violating laws criminalizing the unlawful sale of nitrous oxide, and requires the court to order the suspension of the business license, for a period of up to one year, for a retailer that repeatedly violates those laws.

Note: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process – Appropriations

AB-1253 (Schultz) - Property taxation: newly constructed property: reconstruction of damaged or destroyed property.

Authorizes an assessor to align the "substantial equivalence" standard for purposes of assessing new construction after a property has been damaged or destroyed by misfortune or calamity with the reconstruction rules set by the state or local government to expedite the rebuilding of property damaged by the January 2025 Los Angeles-area wildfire disaster.

Note: This bill was subsequently amended out of the jurisdiction of the Assembly Business and Professions Committee.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Appropriations

AB-1271 (Bonta) - Communications: broadband internet service providers.

Would have required the Department of Consumer Affairs to collect and analyze data relating to broadband internet access service pricing and speed data and required broadband internet service providers to establish and maintain a consumer complaint resolution process.

Note: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process – Appropriations

AB-1382 (Castillo) - Animals: sale of pets: intentional genomic alterations.

Prohibits a person from importing for profit, selling, or offering for sale in California a pet animal that has been modified or developed by intentional genomic alterations, as defined, unless the intentional genomic alteration is to benefit the health of the animal or to enhance the animal's interaction with humans.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Business and Professions

AB-1406 (Ward) - Subdivisions: disbursements of deposits.

Authorizes a purchaser's deposit that is held in escrow pursuant to a binding sales contract for a lot or parcel within a subdivision that is not yet constructed or developed to be disbursed before closing to pay for project expenses, subject to the developer meeting certain requirements and qualifications, and subject to approval by the Department of Real Estate.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process – Judiciary

SB-790 (Cabaldon) - Postsecondary education: interstate reciprocity agreements for distance education: out-of-state postsecondary educational institutions.

Would have authorized the Governor, on or before January 1, 2028, to enter into an interstate reciprocity agreement for the authorization and oversight of distance education pursuant to specified conditions.

Note: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Appropriations

Cannabis Licensing and Regulation

AB-8 (Aguiar-Curry) - Cannabis: cannabinoids: industrial hemp.

Beginning January 1, 2028, requires products containing concentrated cannabinoids other than cannabidiol (CBD) isolate that are derived from industrial hemp to comply with provisions of the Medicinal and Adult-Use Cannabis Regulation and Safety Act (MAUCRSA); establishes a framework for industrial hemp to enter the licensed cannabis market; revises various definitions for purposes of MAUCRSA and other state cannabis laws; prohibits the sale of synthetic cannabis products and inhalable cannabis products containing cannabinoids derived from hemp; places restrictions on the incorporation of industrial hemp raw extract into food and beverage products; and expands the authority for state and local enforcement agencies to inspect, seize, and destroy unlawful cannabis products.

Status: Chapter 248, Statutes of 2025

AB-564 (Haney) - Cannabis: excise tax: rate increase repeal.

Repeals language requiring the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration to increase the cannabis excise tax rate to compensate for the estimated revenue lost as a result of the suspension of the cannabis cultivation tax.

Status: Chapter 127, Statutes of 2025

AB-686 (Berman) - Cannabis: appointees: prohibited activities.

Extends current prohibitions against state cannabis officials having specified financial interests or relationships within the licensed cannabis industry to additional appointed officials within the Department of Cannabis Control.

Note: Placed on the Senate Inactive File.

Status: Senate-In Floor Process

AB-762 (Irwin) - Disposable, battery-embedded vapor inhalation device: prohibition.

Prohibits the sale of disposable, battery-embedded vapor inhalation devices, as defined, and authorizes the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration and the Department of Cannabis Control to enforce this prohibition through the revocation or suspension of the respective licenses issued by those departments.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Business and Professions

AB-1027 (Sharp-Collins) - Cannabis: testing: quality assurance.

Would have required embargoed cannabis and cannabis products to be physically separated from all other inventory within one business day of receiving a notice of embargo from the Department of Cannabis Control (DCC); required licensees to provide the Certificate of Analysis associated with cannabis or cannabis products, upon request; authorized the DCC to conduct off-the-shelf laboratory testing of any cannabis or cannabis products offered for retail sale; authorized the DCC to subject testing laboratories to blind proficiency testing by the DCC, upon appropriation by the Legislature; required distributors to record the quality assurance review of each batch of cannabis or cannabis products in the California Cannabis Track-and-Trace system; and made other changes related to laboratory testing of cannabis and cannabis products.

Note: Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process – Appropriations

AB-1209 (Michelle Rodriguez) - Workers' compensation: cannabis industry.

Authorizes the Administrative Director of the Division of Workers' Compensation within the Department of Industrial Relations or their agent to require an employer licensed under the Medicinal and Adult-Use Cannabis Regulation and Safety Act to provide proof of compliance with existing workers' compensation insurance requirements, as specified.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Business and Professions

AB-1332 (Ahrens) - Medicinal cannabis: shipments.

Would have authorized a licensed cannabis microbusiness, as specified, to directly ship medicinal cannabis to a medicinal cannabis patient in California via common carrier in limited circumstances.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1332 without my signature.

This bill would authorize a limited number of cannabis microbusinesses to ship certain medicinal cannabis products directly to patients using a common carrier.

While I appreciate the author's goal of expanding patient access to medical cannabis, the proposed direct-shipping program would be burdensome and overly complex to administer. The Department of Cannabis Control (DCC) will need to revamp the California Cannabis Track-and-Trace System, which will take significant resources and time. Moreover, this measure includes numerous restrictions on eligible products - many of which are unclear, overly narrow, or unworkable, adding to the implementation challenge. Given that this measure allows just two businesses to ship medical cannabis directly to patients, the costs of administering this program far outweigh the possible benefits to patients.

I remain open to working with the Legislature on strategies to effectively advance equitable access to safe and regulated cannabis. However, this measure would not achieve that goal while shifting limited resources away from DCC's other priorities.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

*Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom*

AB-1397 (Flora) - Hemp: low-dose hemp drinks.

Allows for the production and sale of low-dose hemp drinks containing no greater than 5 milligrams of total hemp-derived THC per container.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Business and Professions

AB-1496 (Blanca Rubio) - Cannabis task force.

Reestablishes a prior task force on state and local regulation of commercial cannabis activity and expands the membership of the task force to include representatives of tribal governmental entities.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Business, Professions and Economic Development

SB-378 (Wiener) - Online marketplaces: illicit cannabis: reporting and liability.

Beginning July 1, 2026, requires websites that facilitate the sale of cannabis or cannabis products to either verify that sellers are licensed or display a warning to the consumer that sellers on the website may be unlicensed; requires websites that sell either cannabis or intoxicating hemp products to provide a mechanism for any individual to report advertisements on the website relating to unlicensed sellers of cannabis or intoxicating hemp products; and establishes additional requirements, enforcement processes, liabilities, and penalties for websites that facilitate the sale of cannabis by unlicensed sellers or the sale of intoxicating hemp products.

Status: Chapter 411, Statutes of 2025

SB-861 (Committee on Business, Professions and Economic Development) - Consumer affairs.

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

Status: Chapter 592, Statutes of 2025

Health Licensing and Regulation

AB-50 (Bonta) - Pharmacists: furnishing contraceptives.

Expressly authorizes a pharmacist to furnish over-the-counter contraceptives without having to comply with the standardized procedures or protocols that are required for prescription-only hormonal contraceptives.

Status: Chapter 135, Statutes of 2025

AB-260 (Aguiar-Curry) - Sexual and reproductive health care.

Protects the authority of a licensed health care professional to prescribe, furnish, order, or administer mifepristone and other medication abortion drugs; authorizes a pharmacist to dispense those drugs without the name of the prescriber or the name and address of the pharmacy on the prescription label, subject to certain requirements; and makes

additional technical and conforming changes to recognize the constitutional right to receive abortion care in California.

Status: Chapter 136, Statutes of 2025

AB-360 (Papan) - Physicians and surgeons: menopause surveys.

Would have required the Medical Board of California to develop and administer menopause training surveys, as specified.

Note: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process – Appropriations

AB-375 (Nguyen) - Medical Practice Act: health care providers: qualified autism service paraprofessionals.

Adds qualified autism service paraprofessionals to the list of health care providers that may provide behavioral health treatment services via telehealth, thus ensuring health plans and insurers cover those services.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process – Appropriations

AB-408 (Berman) - Physician Health and Wellness Program.

Revises the authority of the Medical Board of California to establish a Physician Health and Wellness Program to enable the program to align with national best practices for helping physicians with substance use disorders and other conditions receive treatment so they can continue practicing safely.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process – Judiciary

AB-427 (Jackson) - Social workers: interstate compact.

Would have codified the Social Work Licensure Compact to facilitate the practice of social work across state lines by licensees authorized to do so.

Note: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Appropriations

AB-432 (Bauer-Kahan) - Menopause.

Would have authorized qualifying physicians and surgeons to earn double credit for menopause-related continuing education and would have required health care service plan contracts and health insurance policies to cover the evaluation and treatment of perimenopause and menopause, as specified.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed

Governor's Veto Message:

Dear Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 432 without my signature.

This bill would require certain health plan and health insurer contracts to cover the costs of evaluation and treatment options for symptoms of perimenopause and menopause, as deemed medically necessary by a health care provider without utilization management (UM).

Last year, I vetoed a substantially similar bill, stating that it would limit the ability of health plans to engage in practices that have been shown to ensure appropriate care while limiting unnecessary costs. That is still the case with this bill - despite my call for a more tailored solution. This bill's expansive coverage mandate, in conjunction with a prohibition on UM, is too far-reaching. Health plans use UM to ensure enrollees receive the right care at the right time, which is especially important when there are new and emerging treatments.

I strongly support the author's goal of ensuring quality care and access to evaluation and treatment of perimenopause and menopause symptoms. However, these factors, along with a lack of clarity in AB 432 regarding undefined terms, still raise significant cost and implementation concerns. The Legislature has twice now sent me a bill that does not strike the important, and achievable, balance between expanding access to this essential treatment and the affordability of care. This is especially important as consumers are facing double-digit rate increases in their health care premiums across the nation.

As such, I am directing the California Health and Human Services Agency to identify additional policy changes or investments to address perimenopause and menopause evaluation and treatments for consideration as part of next year's budget process.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

*Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom*

AB-447 (Mark González) - Emergency room patient prescriptions.

Authorizes a prescriber to dispense the unused portion of a dangerous drug to an emergency room patient upon discharge from the hospital under specified conditions and expands the existing licensure exemption for automated unit dose systems (AUDSs).

Status: Chapter 363, Statutes of 2025

AB-463 (Michelle Rodriguez) - Emergency medical services: dogs and cats.

Authorizes ambulance operators to transport police dogs and search-and-rescue dogs to veterinary premises, and authorizes emergency responders to render first aid to these dogs under specified circumstances.

Note: This bill was subsequently amended out of the jurisdiction of the Assembly Business and Professions Committee.

Status: Chapter 98, Statutes of 2025

AB-481 (Blanca Rubio) - Healing arts: clinical laboratories: personnel.

Would have modified the practice of unlicensed personnel in a licensed clinical laboratory by defining the undefined terms “assist,” “assisting,” and “supervision and control.”

Note: Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process – Appropriations

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

Extends the enforceability of existing title protections for various licensed health care professions to expressly apply against a person or entity who develops or deploys artificial intelligence (AI) or generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) technology.

Status: Chapter 615, Statutes of 2025

AB-511 (Chen) - Radiologist assistants.

Would have prohibited a person from holding themselves out as a radiologist assistant (RA) or using the RA title or any other term to imply or to suggest that the person is an RA unless the person meets specified requirements.

Note: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process – Appropriations

AB-529 (Ahrens) - Pharmacy: declared state of emergency.

Increases the existing statutory duration for which the California State Board of Pharmacy may extend waivers of pharmacy laws and regulations beyond the termination of a declared emergency from 90 days to 120 days.

Status: Senate-In Desk Process

AB-659 (Berman) - Master of Divinity: physician and surgeon: title.

Would have clarified that a person who has earned a Master of Divinity degree but not a medical degree may not display titles highlighting the title “MD” or “M.D.” in a way that makes it unclear that the title is an “MDiv” or “M.D.i.v.”

Note: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process – Appropriations

AB-667 (Solache) - Professions and vocations: license examinations: interpreters.

Requires certain licensing boards within the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) to collect and report information on license applicant language preferences to determine whether there is a substantial number of non-English-speaking applicants who require the services of an interpreter.

Note: Placed on the Senate Inactive File.

Status: Senate-In Floor Process

AB-742 (Elhawary) - Department of Consumer Affairs: licensing: applicants who are descendants of slaves.

Would have required state licensing boards within the Department of Consumer Affairs to expedite applications from individuals seeking licensure who are descendants of American slaves.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 742 without my signature.

This bill would require boards and bureaus under the Department of Consumer Affairs to expedite applicants seeking licensure who are descendants of slaves, once a certification process for the descendants of American Slaves is implemented by the Bureau for Descendants of American Slavery.

I appreciate the author's intent to increase diversity within the professional licensed population and improve licensure opportunities for historically underrepresented communities. However, as the number of applicants who qualify for expedited licensure increases, the benefits of mandated prioritization may start to diminish, creating negative impacts on other applicants. Additionally, licensing fee increases may result from this bill, as an increase in staff will be necessary to ensure expedited applications. I vetoed two similar measures seeking to expedite licensure for specified populations last year for these same concerns, and I believe more data is needed on the effectiveness and consequences of expedited licensure before committing to similar frameworks.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

*Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom*

AB-867 (Lee) - Veterinary medicine: cat declawing.

Prohibits a person from performing a declawing or similar procedures on any cat unless the person is licensed as a veterinarian in California and the veterinarian is performing the declawing for a therapeutic purpose.

Status: Chapter 479, Statutes of 2025

AB-873 (Alanis) - Dentistry: dental assistants: infection control course.

Modifies various requirements regarding unlicensed dental assistant (DA) infection control courses.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Business, Professions and Economic Development

AB-876 (Flora) - Nurse anesthetists: scope of practice.

Defines "anesthesia services" for purposes of the provision of anesthesia by a certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA), specifies that an order by a physician, dentist, or podiatrist for anesthesia services for a specific patient shall be the authorization for the nurse anesthetist to select and implement the modality of anesthesia for the patient and to abort or modify the modality of anesthesia for the patient during the course of care, and makes other technical clarifications.

Status: Chapter 169, Statutes of 2025

AB-957 (Ortega) - Cigarette and tobacco products: retail sale: pharmacies.

Would prohibit a pharmacy from engaging in the sale of cigarettes or tobacco products.

Note: Failed passage in the Senate Committee on Business, Professions, and Economic Development.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Business, Professions and Economic Development

AB-966 (Carrillo) - Dental Practice Act: foreign dental schools.

Reinstates the approval of foreign dental schools that have not been approved by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) but were previously approved by the Dental Board of California and establishes pathways for licensure by graduates of those schools to obtain licensure in California while the CODA approval process is ongoing.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Business and Professions

AB-967 (Valencia) - Physicians and surgeons: licensure: expedite fee.

Until January 1, 2030, requires the Medical Board of California to expedite the licensure process for applicants licensed to practice medicine in other states who intend to provide direct patient care in California and who pay an additional fee.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Business, Professions and Economic Development

AB-968 (Boerner) - Pharmacists: self-administered FDA-approved nonhormonal contraceptives.

Authorizes a pharmacist to furnish nonhormonal contraceptives approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in accordance with the standardized procedures or protocols that were developed and approved for self-administered hormonal contraceptives.

Note: Placed on the Senate Inactive File.

Status: Senate-In Floor Process

AB-985 (Ahrens) - Anesthesiologist assistants.

Establishes the Anesthesiologist Assistant Practice Act to allow certified anesthesiologist assistants to assist supervising anesthesiologists in developing and implementing an anesthesia care plan for a patient.

Note: This bill was subsequently amended into an entirely different proposal within another committee's jurisdiction.

Status: Chapter 174, Statutes of 2025

AB-1082 (Flora) - Nursing: students in out-of-state nursing programs.

Would have authorized unlicensed nursing students who are enrolled in an out-of-state distance education nursing program to provide supervised nursing services that are incidental to the course of study for purposes of gaining clinical experience.

Note: Held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process – Appropriations

AB-1130 (Berman) - Medical Board of California: appointments: removal.

Requires the Dental Board of California (DBC) to partner with educators, dental schools, and community-based organizations to provide outreach and support to students from underserved communities in pursuing education and licensure in the field of dentistry.

Note: Placed on the Senate Inactive File.

Status: Senate-In Floor Process

AB-1215 (Flora) - Hospitals: medical staff membership.

Clarifies that dentists, podiatrists, clinical psychologists, nurse practitioners, certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs), nurse midwives, and other licensed health care professionals may serve on the medical staff.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Business and Professions

AB-1307 (Ávila Farías) - Licensed Dentists from Mexico Pilot Program.

Reestablishes the Licensed Dentists from Mexico Pilot Program and revises various requirements contained within the existing pilot program relating to the temporary state licensure of dental professionals from Mexico.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process - Business, Professions and Economic Development

AB-1458 (Wallis) - Physical therapy and veterinary medicine: animal physical therapy.

Authorizes a licensed physical therapist (PT), who meets specified education and experience requirements, to perform animal physical therapy, as defined, either under the direct supervision of a veterinarian or under the indirect supervision of a veterinarian, so long as the PT has an active practice agreement with a veterinarian and the animal patient is referred to the PT by a veterinarian.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Business and Professions

AB-1501 (Committee on Business and Professions) - Physician assistants and podiatrists.

Extends the operation of the Podiatric Medical Board of California (PMBC) and the Physician Assistant Board (PAB) by four years to January 1, 2030, and makes other changes recommended as part of the boards' sunset review.

Status: Chapter 194, Statutes of 2025

AB-1502 (Committee on Business and Professions) - Veterinary medicine: California Veterinary Medical Board.

Extends the operation of the California Veterinary Medical Board (CVMB) by four years to January 1, 2030, and makes other changes recommended as part of the boards' sunset review.

Status: Chapter 195, Statutes of 2025

AB-1503 (Committee on Business and Professions) - Pharmacy.

Extends the sunset date for the California State Board of Pharmacy until January 1, 2030 and makes additional technical changes, statutory improvements, and policy reforms in response to issues raised during the board's sunset review oversight process.

Status: Chapter 196, Statutes of 2025

AB-1504 (Committee on Business and Professions) - California Massage Therapy Council.

Extends the sunset date for the California Massage Therapy Council (CAMTC) until January 1, 2030 and makes additional technical changes, statutory improvements, and policy reforms in response to issues raised during CAMTC's sunset review oversight process.

Status: Chapter 197, Statutes of 2025

SB-351 (Cabaldon) - Health facilities.

Expressly prohibits private equity groups and hedge funds from interfering with the professional judgment of physicians or dentists in making health care decisions or exercising control or power over specified activities in violation of the existing bar on the corporate practice of medicine or dentistry, and subjects private equity groups and hedge funds to enforcement by the Attorney General for violations of those specific prohibitions.

Status: Chapter 409, Statutes of 2025

SB-387 (Rubio) - Physicians and surgeons: special faculty permits: academic medical centers.

(1) Expands the types of academic medical centers (AMCs) where a physician who is unlicensed in California but holds a special faculty permit (SFP) may practice medicine to include specified National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer centers, (2) excludes the centers from serving on the SFP review committee of the Medical Board of California (MBC), and (3) increases the number of SFPs the MBC may approve from five per year to five per academic medical center per year.

Status: Chapter 752, Statutes of 2025

SB-389 (Ochoa Bogh) - Pupil health: individuals with exceptional needs: respiratory services: licensed vocational nurses.

Authorizes licensed vocational nurses (LVNs), under the supervision of a credentialed school nurse, to provide basic respiratory care services to individuals with exceptional needs who require specialized physical health care services.

Status: Chapter 582, Statutes of 2025

SB-402 (Valladares) - Health care coverage: autism.

Repeals the definition of qualified autism service provider, qualified autism service professional, and qualified autism service paraprofessional in the Health and Safety Code and Insurance Code (and recasts them in the Business and Professions Code).

Status: Chapter 413, Statutes of 2025

SB-418 (Menjivar) - Health care coverage: prescription hormone therapy and nondiscrimination.

Would have required a pharmacist to dispense up to a 12-month supply of a prescription hormone therapy approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration, if requested by the patient and subject to certain exceptions; would have required health care service plan contracts and health insurance policies to cover a 12-month supply of prescription hormone therapy; and would have prohibited discrimination by health plans or health insurers on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

Status: Senate-In Floor Process

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 418 without my signature.

This bill would require health plans and insurers to cover a 12-month supply of federal Food and Drug Administration-approved prescription hormone therapy, and necessary supplies for self-administration, prescribed by an in network provider and dispensed at one time without utilization management (UM).

I appreciate the author's intent to ensure patient access to the comprehensive care they need. While there are provisions of this bill that are worthy of support, I am concerned about the limitation on the use of UM, which is an important tool to ensure enrollees receive the right care at the right time. Prohibiting this cost containment strategy is likely to result in an increase in enrollee premiums to offset costs incurred by health plans and insurers. At a time when individuals are facing double-digit rate increases in their health care premiums across the nation, we must take great care to not enact policies that further drive up the cost of health care, no matter how well-intended.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

*Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom*

SB-508 (Valladares) - California Environmental Quality Act: transportation impact mitigation.

Expands existing law, which narrowly allows for out-of-state physicians to provide care via telehealth without a license to California patients who have an immediately life-threatening disease or condition, by allowing for those out-of-state physicians to continue to provide care to those patients in perpetuity after the patient's disease or condition is in remission and no longer immediately life-threatening.

Note: This bill was subsequently amended into an entirely different proposal within another committee's jurisdiction.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Business and Professions

SB-602 (Cortese) - Veterinarians: veterinarian-client-patient relationship.

Authorizes registered veterinary technicians (RVTs) to establish a veterinarian-client-patient-relationship (VCPR) in certain animal shelter settings for purposes of administering preventive or prophylactic vaccines or medications, without their supervising veterinarian physically present.

Status: Chapter 589, Statutes of 2025

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

Would have authorized licensing boards under the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) and the Department of Real Estate (DRE) to waive the application of specified laws for licensees and applicants who are impacted by a declared federal, state, or local emergency or whose home or business is located in a disaster area; would have required licensees and applicants of entities within the DCA to provide an email address to their licensing agency; would have required the DRE to make determinations regarding any unlawful, unfair, or fraudulent practices by individuals in the wake of a declared emergency or disaster area, including unsolicited offers for real property for an amount less than fair market value; and would have established requirements for debris removal.

Status: Senate-In Floor Process

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 641 without my signature.

This bill would authorize licensing boards under the Department of Consumer Affairs and the Department of Real Estate to waive the application of specified laws for licensees and applicants who are impacted by a proclaimed federal, state, or local emergency, or whose homes or businesses are located in a disaster area. Additionally, this bill would ban unsolicited offers by real estate licensees and their clients that are below market value, as it was the day before the disaster, and would ban it throughout the entire geographic area in which the disaster is proclaimed.

I appreciate the intent of the author to help those impacted by natural disasters to find regulatory relief quickly and to protect those with property in disaster areas. In response to recent disasters, my Administration worked closely with the Legislature to coordinate

targeted relief and consumer protections to disaster victims - absent the authority sought in this bill.

With respect to the real estate protection provisions, the bill is overly broad, applying to all natural disasters even when housing is unaffected. It also leaves an enforcement gap by regulating licensees only when acting for clients, not for themselves. Together, these issues call into question whether the bill is properly tailored to achieve its stated goals.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

*Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom*

SB-773 (Ashby) - Board of Registered Nursing: advisory committees.

Deletes the requirement for the Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) to have permission from the director of the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) before forming an advisory committee.

Note: Ordered to the Assembly Inactive File.

Status: Assembly-In Floor Process

SB-775 (Ashby) - Board of Psychology and Board of Behavioral Sciences.

Extends the sunset date for the California Board of Psychology and the Board of Behavioral Sciences until January 1, 2030, and makes additional technical changes, statutory improvements, and policy reforms in response to issues raised during the boards' sunset review oversight process.

Status: Chapter 787, Statutes of 2025

SB-776 (Ashby) - Optometry.

Extends the sunset date for the California Board of Optometry until January 1, 2030 and makes additional technical changes, statutory improvements, and policy reforms in response to issues raised during the board's sunset review oversight process.

Status: Chapter 788, Statutes of 2025

SB-861 (Committee on Business, Professions and Economic Development) - Consumer affairs.

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

Status: Chapter 592, Statutes of 2025

Non-Health Licensing and Regulation

AB-521 (Carrillo) - Contractors State License Board: bond deposits: liability for legal fees and costs.

Shields the Contractors State License Board from liability for legal fees in civil claims involving a contractor's cash deposit in lieu of surety bond.

Status: Chapter 265, Statutes of 2025

AB-586 (Flora) - Professional fiduciaries.

Would have authorized professional fiduciary licensees to form professional fiduciary professional corporations if specified conditions were met.

Note: Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process – Appropriations

AB-625 (Nguyen) - Barbering and cosmetology.

Removes certain services from the practices of barbering and cosmetology and repeals the authority of the Board of Barbering and Cosmetology to issue a hairstylist license.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Business and Professions

AB-667 (Solache) - Professions and vocations: license examinations: interpreters.

Requires certain licensing boards within the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) to collect and report information on license applicant language preferences to determine whether there is a substantial number of non-English-speaking applicants who require the services of an interpreter.

Note: Placed on the Senate Inactive File.

Status: Senate-In Floor Process

AB-739 (Jackson) - Common interest developments: managing agents: real estate broker license.

Requires a managing agent of a common interest development to hold a real estate broker license issued by the state.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process - Housing and Community Development

AB-742 (Elhawary) - Department of Consumer Affairs: licensing: applicants who are descendants of slaves.

Would have required state licensing boards within the Department of Consumer Affairs to expedite applications from individuals seeking licensure who are descendants of American slaves.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 742 without my signature.

This bill would require boards and bureaus under the Department of Consumer Affairs to expedite applicants seeking licensure who are descendants of slaves, once a certification process for the descendants of American Slaves is implemented by the Bureau for Descendants of American Slavery.

I appreciate the author's intent to increase diversity within the professional licensed population and improve licensure opportunities for historically underrepresented communities. However, as the number of applicants who qualify for expedited licensure increases, the benefits of mandated prioritization may start to diminish, creating negative impacts on other applicants. Additionally, licensing fee increases may result from this bill, as an increase in staff will be necessary to ensure expedited applications. I vetoed two similar measures seeking to expedite licensure for specified populations last year for these same concerns, and I believe more data is needed on the effectiveness and consequences of expedited licensure before committing to similar frameworks.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

*Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom*

AB-759 (Valencia) - Architects: architects-in-training.

Authorizes individuals pursuing an architect license to use the title "architect-in-training" if they meet specified criteria and pay a fee to be determined by the California Architects Board.

Status: Chapter 380, Statutes of 2025

AB-1002 (Gabriel) - Contractors: failure to pay wages: discipline.

Authorizes the Attorney General to bring a civil action to impose discipline upon, to deny an application for, or to deny continued maintenance of, a contractor license, as specified.

Status: Chapter 567, Statutes of 2025

AB-1175 (Irwin) - Accountants.

Phases in new education and experience standards for a certified public accountant (CPA) license and authorizes out-of-state CPA license holders to practice public accountancy in California under a practice privilege if the state that issued their license has comparable licensure requirements, as defined.

Status: Chapter 293, Statutes of 2025

AB-1189 (Lackey) - Court reporting: digital reporters and legal transcriptionists.

Establishes a certification program for digital reporters under the Court Reporters Board.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process – Judiciary

AB-1341 (Hoover) - Contractors: discipline: unlicensed architecture, engineering, or land surveying.

Would have made the unlicensed practice of architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, land surveying, geology, geophysics, or structural pest control by a licensed contractor a cause for disciplinary action by the Contractors State License

Board.

Note: Held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.

Status: Senate-In Committee Process – Appropriations

SB-291 (Grayson) - Contractors: workers' compensation insurance.

Strengthens enforcement of workers' compensation insurance requirements for contractors licensed by the Contractors State License Board.

Status: Chapter 455, Statutes of 2025

SB-456 (Ashby) - Contractors: exemptions: muralists.

This bill exempts an artist who creates, restores, or preserves a mural from licensure under the Contractors State License Law.

Status: Chapter 758, Statutes of 2025

SB-517 (Niello) - Home improvement contract requirements: subcontractors.

Requires home improvement contracts to disclose whether a subcontractor will be used on the project and, if so, to provide a notice informing consumers that the subcontractor's information may be provided upon request.

Status: Chapter 585, Statutes of 2025

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

Would have authorized licensing boards under the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) and the Department of Real Estate (DRE) to waive the application of specified laws for licensees and applicants who are impacted by a declared federal, state, or local emergency or whose home or business is located in a disaster area; would have required licensees and applicants of entities within the DCA to provide an email address to their licensing agency; would have required the DRE to make determinations regarding any unlawful, unfair, or fraudulent practices by individuals in the wake of a declared emergency or disaster area, including unsolicited offers for real property for an

amount less than fair market value; and would have established requirements for debris removal.

Status: Senate-In Floor Process

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 641 without my signature.

This bill would authorize licensing boards under the Department of Consumer Affairs and the Department of Real Estate to waive the application of specified laws for licensees and applicants who are impacted by a proclaimed federal, state, or local emergency, or whose homes or businesses are located in a disaster area. Additionally, this bill would ban unsolicited offers by real estate licensees and their clients that are below market value, as it was the day before the disaster, and would ban it throughout the entire geographic area in which the disaster is proclaimed.

I appreciate the intent of the author to help those impacted by natural disasters to find regulatory relief quickly and to protect those with property in disaster areas. In response to recent disasters, my Administration worked closely with the Legislature to coordinate targeted relief and consumer protections to disaster victims - absent the authority sought in this bill.

With respect to the real estate protection provisions, the bill is overly broad, applying to all natural disasters even when housing is unaffected. It also leaves an enforcement gap by regulating licensees only when acting for clients, not for themselves. Together, these issues call into question whether the bill is properly tailored to achieve its stated goals.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

*Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom*

SB-652 (Richardson) - Private security services: security guards: training.

Clarifies that existing required power to arrest and the appropriate use of force training courses for security guard applicants must be administered and certified by a single

course provider and completed within six months of applying for registration, and makes other technical changes.

Status: Chapter 94, Statutes of 2025

SB-774 (Ashby) - Department of Real Estate and the Bureau of Real Estate Appraisers: Bureau of Automotive Repair.

Extends the operation of the Department of Real Estate (DRE) and the Bureau of Real Estate Appraisers (BREA) by four years to January 1, 2030, and makes other changes recommended as part of the boards' sunset review.

Status: Chapter 786, Statutes of 2025

SB-777 (Richardson) - Cemeteries.

Revises the timeframe for the Cemetery and Funeral Bureau to convene a workgroup from July 1, 2027 to March 1, 2026, revises the deadline to provide a report to the Legislature summarizing the discussions of the workgroup to no later than June 1, 2026, instead of January 1, 2028, and specifies stakeholder participants that shall be part of the workgroup.

Status: Chapter 658, Statutes of 2025

SB-779 (Archuleta) - Contractors: civil penalties.

Establishes new and increases existing minimum civil penalties to be assessed by the Contractors State License Board for a violation of the Contractors State License Law, authorizes the Contractors State License Board to increase the minimum civil penalties every five years to account for inflation, and increases the Contractors State License Board's revenue fund cap from six months of authorized expenditures to 12 months.

Status: Chapter 233, Statutes of 2025

SB-788 (Niello) - Tax preparers: exemptions.

Exempts out-of-state certified public accountants practicing in California under this state's mobility laws, and owners, partners, shareholders, and employees of an accounting firm licensed by the California Board of Accountancy, from the requirement to register with the California Tax Education Council prior to signing tax returns for paying clients.

Status: Chapter 329, Statutes of 2025

Other

AB-1406 (Ward) - Subdivisions: disbursements of deposits.

Authorizes a purchaser's deposit that is held in escrow pursuant to a binding sales contract for a lot or parcel within a subdivision that is not yet constructed or developed to be disbursed before closing to pay for project expenses, subject to the developer meeting certain requirements and qualifications, and subject to approval by the Department of Real Estate.

Status: Assembly-In Committee Process – Judiciary

SB-344 (Weber Pierson) - Disposition of human remains: scattering at sea.

Establishes that cremated or hydrolyzed human remains cannot be scattered from a "dock attached to a shore", an addition to existing prohibitions regarding scattering remains from bridges and docks.

Note: Ordered to the Assembly Inactive File.

Status: Assembly-In Floor Process

SB-777 (Richardson) - Cemeteries.

Revises the timeframe for the Cemetery and Funeral Bureau to convene a workgroup from July 1, 2027 to March 1, 2026, revises the deadline to provide a report to the Legislature summarizing the discussions of the workgroup to no later than June 1, 2026, instead of January 1, 2028, and specifies stakeholder participants that shall be part of the workgroup.

Status: Chapter 658, Statutes of 2025