



BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS MEETING MINUTES

April 17–18, 2025

The Board of Chiropractic Examiners (Board) met in person on April 17–18, 2025, at the following location:

Life Chiropractic College West
25001 Industrial Boulevard
Hayward, CA 94545

Board Members Present

Laurence Adams, D.C., Chair
Pamela Daniels, D.C., Vice Chair
Janette N.V. Cruz, Secretary
Sergio Azzolino, D.C.
David Paris, D.C.

Board Members Absent

Rafael Sweet (Excused)

Staff Present

Kristin Walker, Executive Officer
Tammi Pitto, Assistant Executive Officer
Lynne Reinhardt, Enforcement Manager
Amanda Ah Po, Enforcement Analyst
Sabina Knight, Board Counsel, Attorney III, Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA)
Steven Vong, Regulatory Counsel, Attorney III, DCA

Thursday, April 17, 2025

1. Open Session – Call to Order / Roll Call / Establishment of a Quorum

Dr. Adams called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Ms. Cruz called the roll. Mr. Sweet was excused from the meeting. All other members were present, and a quorum was established.

2. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

Public Comment: None.

3. Board Chair's Report

Dr. Adams extended the Board's appreciation to Life Chiropractic College West (Life West) for hosting the Board on campus and thanked former Board member Claudia Sandino, D.C. for her service. He emphasized the Board's focus on preparing for the upcoming sunset review and moving the Board's 21 regulatory proposals forward throughout 2025. He also acknowledged staff's work to streamline the initial licensure process and reduce processing timeframes to one to two business days from receipt of a completed application.

He shared his goal as Chair of pursuing excellence in the Board's efforts to meet the needs of licensees and stakeholders by communicating more effectively with them and by continuing to engage in outreach opportunities. He also reported that Dr. Paris and Dr. Azzolino provided licensee outreach at the California Chiropractic Association's (CalChiro) Seaside Symposium, and he and Ms. Walker provided an ethics presentation and engaged with licensees regarding continuing education (CE) and enforcement issues at CalChiro's Legislative Day.

Public Comment: None.

4. Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Report Which May Include Updates on DCA's Administrative Services, Human Resources, Enforcement, Information Technology, Communications and Outreach, and Legislative, Regulatory, or Policy Matters

Ms. Walker shared an update on behalf of DCA regarding the Governor's reorganization plan to split the current Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency (BCSH) into two state agencies—the California Housing and Homelessness Agency and the Business and Consumer Services Agency—to become operative on July 1, 2026, if approved. She conveyed DCA's belief that the plan is an extraordinary opportunity for the Department to better align with other consumer protection entities and that a dedicated consumer protection focused Secretary within the Governor's cabinet will only strengthen DCA's mission, momentum, and delivery of services in California.

She explained that on March 3, 2025, Governor Newsom issued an executive order requiring all state agencies and departments to update their hybrid telework policies for employees and increase from two to four in-office days per week beginning on July 1, 2025, and on March 13, 2025, the California Department of Human Resources issued guidance on the implementation of the order.

She also reported that on April 14, 2025, the DCA Director announced Levi Hull as the new Compliance and Equity Officer, a position responsible for leading and coordinating Department-wide quality improvement efforts to ensure consistency and regulatory compliance. She added Mr. Hull brings more than 12 years of experience leading

multidisciplinary teams and driving strategic program development with a deep commitment to fostering inclusive, equitable, and accessible work environments.

Public Comment: None.

5. Review and Possible Approval of Board Meeting Minutes

- A. July 20, 2023 Board Meeting
- B. October 19–20, 2023 Board Meeting
- C. January 12, 2024 Board Meeting
- D. May 23–24, 2024 Board Meeting
- E. October 24, 2024 Board Meeting
- F. February 13, 2025 Board Meeting

This agenda item was tabled to the next meeting.

6. Review and Possible Ratification of Approved Doctor of Chiropractic License Applications

Motion: Dr. Daniels moved to ratify the list of approved applications for doctor of chiropractic licenses issued from February 1, 2025 to March 31, 2025.

Second: Dr. Paris seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None.

Vote: 5-0 (Dr. Adams-AYE, Dr. Daniels-AYE, Ms. Cruz-AYE, Dr. Azzolino-AYE, and Dr. Paris-AYE).

Motion: Carried.

7. Review and Possible Approval of New Continuing Education Provider Applications

Motion: Dr. Paris moved to approve the new continuing education provider applications by Arete Services LLC, United College, Deborah Ben-Shah, and Meri Melikjanyan Matti.

Second: Dr. Daniels seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None.

Vote: 5-0 (Dr. Adams-AYE, Dr. Daniels-AYE, Ms. Cruz-AYE, Dr. Azzolino-AYE, and Dr. Paris-AYE).

Motion: Carried.

The Board moved to Agenda Item 10.

10. Executive Officer's Report and Updates on:

- A. Administration, Continuing Education, Enforcement, and Licensing Programs
- B. Business Modernization Project and Implementation of Connect System
- C. Board's Budget and Fund Condition
- D. Status of Board's Pending Regulatory Proposals
- E. Board's 2022–2026 Strategic Plan Objectives

Ms. Walker welcomed Dr. Azzolino back to the Board and stated that Dr. Adams appointed him to the Enforcement Committee. She indicated the Governor's reorganization plan will not have a significant impact on the Board's workload, but it will help the Board foster relationships with other consumer and financial protection entities outside of DCA. She reminded the Board of upcoming legislative deadlines and highlighted staff's efforts to reestablish the Board's social media presence and develop additional branding, content, and graphics.

She shared that Vikash Niwashan was hired for the Administration Technician position and his first day was March 3, 2025. She added that former Administration & Licensing Manager Dixie Van Allen accepted a lateral position with the California Fish and Game Commission and former Enforcement Analyst Valerie James accepted a promotional position with the Board of Optometry, and recruitment efforts are underway to refill their vacant positions. She reported that the Board is also working to fill three lead analyst positions to assist with preparing for sunset review, developing policy and regulatory proposals, and supporting the Board's committees.

Ms. Walker referenced the Board's program statistics and shared that staff has been making foundational changes to the Licensing Program to allow the Board to process completed license applications to qualify for the California Chiropractic Law Examination (CCLE) within one to two business days and issue initial doctor of chiropractic (DC) licenses on the same day they are requested by applicants after passing the CCLE. She stated staff is interested in partnering with the chiropractic programs to efficiently access and receive applicants' transcripts and educational information as well as reduce the number of incomplete applications. She also highlighted changes to the desk investigations conducted by Enforcement Program staff and the resulting reduction in the number of pending complaints to about 350. She shared a goal of reducing the number of pending complaints to less than 300 by June 30, 2025.

She briefed the Board on the status of the 21 pending regulatory proposals and stated staff is working to move all of the proposals to at least the initial filing phase by the end of the year. She presented the Board's budget and fund condition and emphasized the need for the Board to include recommendations to ensure the long-term stability of the Board's fund in the 2026 sunset review report. She also suggested the Board consider establishing a delinquency fee for the late renewal of a satellite or corporation certificate because there is currently no penalty.

Dr. Azzolino asked when the repayment of the Board's outstanding loan from the Bureau of Automotive Repair is due. Ms. Walker explained there is no firm due date for repayment, but the Board plans to satisfy the outstanding balance of approximately \$1.5 million through six annual payments of \$250,000. She added she is working with DCA's Budget Office to potentially increase the payment amount for fiscal year 2024–25.

Dr. Daniels asked for clarification on the net decrease of about 2,000 licenses renewed compared to fiscal year 2023–24. Ms. Walker indicated the statistics only include 10 months of data for fiscal year 2024–25, and staff is projecting about 11,400 license renewals by June 30, 2025. Dr. Daniels also inquired about using social media and the website to get information to students, educate them on the application process, and explain enforcement issues. Ms. Walker stated staff has been communicating with the registrar's offices at chiropractic programs and providing information to assist students in applying for licensure after graduation.

Dr. Azzolino suggested working with the chiropractic programs to allow students to receive credit for attending Board meetings on campus and requested a comparison of the licensing populations of the healing arts professions over the past 10 years.

Dr. Paris shared that Southern California University of Health Sciences has an ethics class with an examination on the Board's rules and regulations, and he has been invited multiple times to present and directly engage in a question-and-answer session with the students. He suggested continuing to participate and foster relationships with the California chiropractic programs and offered to gather national licensure statistics.

Ms. Cruz asked about the responsibilities of the staff position that will be handling the Board's website, social media, and online engagement. Ms. Walker indicated the Lead Licensing & Continuing Education Analyst position will be tasked with supporting the committees, addressing licensing and CE policy issues, managing the Board's social media and website, and serving as the Board's records coordinator. Ms. Cruz suggested developing specific communication campaigns for target audiences after the position is filled.

Dr. Daniels requested a copy of the list of topics for the Board's social media and outreach campaigns. Dr. Azzolino advised staff to reinstate the publishing of common violations to educate and better inform licensees.

Dr. Adams asked about the status of the Board's distance learning CE regulatory package. Ms. Walker indicated staff is completing the fiscal analysis of the proposal so the initial filing documents can be submitted to DCA for review and approval. Dr. Adams also emphasized the need for outreach with CE providers and licensees on the upcoming changes to the requirements.

Public Comment: None.

11. Licensing Committee Report

- A. Committee Chair's Update on March 7, 2025 Working Group Meeting
- B. Update, Discussion, and Possible Action on Development of Regulatory Proposal to Update the Requirements for Board Approval of Doctor of Chiropractic (DC) Degree Programs (amend and renumber, as necessary, California Code of Regulations [CCR], Title 16, sections 330, 331.1, 331.2, 331.5, 331.12.1, 331.12.2, 331.12.3, 331.14, and 331.15 and repeal sections 331.3, 331.4, 331.6, 331.7, 331.8, 331.9, 331.10, 331.11, 331.13, and 331.16)
- C. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on Committee's Recommendation Regarding Regulatory Proposal to Clarify the Application and Examination Process for DC Licensure, Including Temporary and Expedited Licensure and Fee Waiver for Military Spouses and Domestic Partners and Expedited Licensure for Veterans, Applicants Enrolled in U.S. Department of Defense SkillBridge Program, Refugees, Asylees, and Special Immigrant Visa Holders (amend CCR, Title 16, sections 320, 321, and 340–349)

Dr. Daniels briefed the Board on the Licensing Committee's efforts to develop a proposal to amend the chiropractic program regulations. She highlighted her discussions with chiropractic program leadership about the language for clinical encounters and preceptorships and staff's efforts to ensure the language being developed meets the rulemaking requirements of the Office of Administrative Law. She also informed the Board that the final proposal will be presented for approval at the next meeting and stated the new language will provide relief to programs by repealing outdated and overly prescriptive requirements.

She explained the Committee is starting a conversation about artificial intelligence (AI), working on licensure reciprocity requirements, developing a definition of a place of practice that includes mobile settings, and requirements for displaying a license in all practice settings. She added the Committee is also considering a new retired status for DC licenses and is developing a survey to receive licensee input on the issue and allow the Board to estimate the potential fiscal impact of the proposal.

Dr. Paris asked about the difference between an active license and a retired license. Ms. Walker explained a retired license requires the payment of a one-time processing fee, not an annual renewal fee, and allows the licensee to continue to represent themselves as a retired doctor of chiropractic, but does not permit them to practice. She added the DCA Search system would display the licensee's primary status as retired, which provides accurate information to the public and avoids the negative public perception associated with a license in forfeiture or cancelled status.

Dr. Azzolino expressed his support for honoring former practitioners in good standing by giving them a retired license status, and he asked about the pathway to reentry to the profession if a retired licensee seeks to return to practice. Ms. Walker shared that the Committee discussed that topic and is proposing to align the pathway with the existing processes for restoring a license from forfeiture or cancelled status.

Dr. Daniels presented the Committee's proposal to clarify the application and examination process for initial DC licensure and introduce a new prelicensure competency requirement that requires an applicant to have either passed the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners (NBCE) Part IV practical examination or actively practiced in another state within the four-year period preceding their application.

Dr. Paris asked if other professions have similar entry requirements to the proposal. Ms. Walker replied that other boards have set deadlines for accepting examination scores, but the rationale behind the four-year period for accepting the Part IV examination score or active practice in another state as evidence of current competency is to align it with the same four-year period already being proposed by the Board for proving competency when seeking to restore a license from cancelled status or reinstate a revoked or surrendered license.

Dr. Azzolino noted that the Board may not be able to verify if an applicant from another state was actually practicing with their active license. Ms. Walker stated the applicant must attest under penalty of perjury on the application that they actively practiced in another state during the four years preceding the date of submission of their application. She also suggested that the Board consider updating the CCLE to include questions testing an applicant's clinical competency to practice in California if there are any gaps in the NBCE examinations.

Motion: Dr. Paris moved to approve the proposed regulatory text for California Code of Regulations (CCR), title 16, sections 320, 321, and 340–349 presented in the meeting materials, direct staff to submit the text to the Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs and the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency for review and if no adverse comments are received, authorize the Executive Officer to take all steps necessary to initiate the rulemaking process, make any non-substantive changes to the package, and set the matter for a hearing if requested. If no adverse comments are received during the 45-day comment period and no hearing is requested, authorize the Executive Officer to take all steps necessary to complete the rulemaking and adopt the proposed regulations at CCR, title 16, sections 320, 321, and 340–349 as noticed.

Second: Dr. Adams seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None.

Vote: 5-0 (Dr. Adams-AYE, Dr. Daniels-AYE, Ms. Cruz-AYE, Dr. Azzolino-AYE, and Dr. Paris-AYE).

Motion: Carried.

The Board returned to Agenda Items 8 and 9.

- 8. Update and Discussion on Life Chiropractic College West's Doctor of Chiropractic Program**
- 9. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on Life Chiropractic College West's Request for Board Approval of an Additional Campus in Bellevue, Nebraska**

Scott Donaldson, D.C., EdD, Provost of Life West, updated the Board on Life West's chiropractic program and recent expansion to an additional educational site in Bellevue, Nebraska. He explained the Bellevue campus received institutional accreditation after a site visit and must wait until the first class is within one year of graduating in order to complete the programmatic accreditation process through the Council on Chiropractic Education (CCE). He shared that Life West will submit a report to CCE for both campuses in fall 2025 and CCE will conduct site visits on both campuses in spring 2026.

Public Comment: None.

- 12. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on Regulatory Proposal Regarding Continuing Education Fees, Requirements, and Approval Process (amend CCR, Title 16, sections 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, and 365 and adopt section 360.1)**

Ms. Walker introduced this agenda item and asked the Board to discuss two potential substantive changes to the text for the pending comprehensive CE regulatory proposal: 1) increase the number of required hours in Competency 3: Adjustment, Manipulation, or Technique from two hours to four hours, thereby increasing the total number of hours in the mandatory competency areas from 10 to 12 of the annual 24 hours of CE; and 2) replace references to a CCE accredited college with a chiropractic program that has been approved by the Board for consistency with the language in the chiropractic program regulations being developed by the Licensing Committee.

Dr. Paris expressed his support for increasing the total number of hours in the mandatory competency areas to 12 but disagreed with adding two more hours to Competency 3: Adjustment, Manipulation, or Technique. He explained that licensees have substantial expertise in chiropractic technique and the Board does not see significant enforcement action in that area. Dr. Azzolino agreed and suggested focusing additional effort on the evaluation, diagnosis, and management of common conditions seen by all healthcare practitioners, including DCs.

Dr. Daniels proposed increasing the number of required hours in Competency 1: Evaluation and Management from four to six based on the fact that DCs serve as primary care physicians and must be able to properly perform an examination and develop a diagnosis. She added the Board frequently finds enforcement issues in that area. Dr. Adams and Dr. Azzolino concurred.

Motion: Dr. Adams moved to rescind the prior approval of the proposed regulatory text from May 23, 2024, with the exception of the proposed regulatory text to amend California Code of Regulations (CCR), title 16, section 363.1, approve the newly proposed regulatory text to amend CCR, title 16, sections 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, and 365 and adopt section 360.1 presented in the meeting materials, with the proposed text for section 361, subdivision (c)(1) amended to read “A minimum of six (6) hours of Board-approved coursework in Competency 1: Evaluation and Management, as defined in subdivision (f)(1)” and the newly proposed edit to section 361, subdivision (c)(3) rejected, direct the Executive Officer to take all steps necessary to initiate the rulemaking process, authorize the Executive Officer to make any technical or non-substantive changes to the rulemaking package, notice the proposed text for a 45-day comment period and, if no adverse comments are received during the 45-day comment period and no hearing is requested, adopt the proposed regulatory change.

Second: Dr. Daniels seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None.

Vote: 5-0 (Dr. Adams-AYE, Dr. Daniels-AYE, Ms. Cruz-AYE, Dr. Azzolino-AYE, and Dr. Paris-AYE).

Motion: Carried.

13. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on Regulatory Proposal Regarding Appeal Process for Contested Citations and Licensee Compliance with Assessed Fines (amend CCR, Title 16, sections 390.4 and 390.5)

Ms. Walker updated the Board on the pending regulatory proposal to amend CCR, title 16, sections 390.4 and 390.5 and reported that while the rulemaking package was being reviewed by BCSH, staff and BCSH determined two substantive changes are needed to the regulatory text before initiating the rulemaking process and submitting the package to the Office of Administrative Law:

- 1) The term “licensee” is being removed from the second sentence in CCR, title 16, section 390.4, subdivision (a) because the payment of any fine by any cited person shall not constitute an admission of the violation charged; and
- 2) Business and Professions Code (BPC) section 148 is being added to the reference section of CCR, title 16, sections 390.4 and 390.5 because the regulations are implementing the provisions of this statute.

Dr. Paris asked if the language within CCR, title 16, section 390.4 stating “the Board shall not construe the payment of any fine to constitute an admission of a charged violation” would prevent the Board from being able to issue another citation or pursue

formal discipline for a subsequent violation. Ms. Knight confirmed the language would not affect the Board's authority to issue citations or take disciplinary action against a licensee. Ms. Walker also noted BPC section 125.9 requires the Board's citation system to include that provision.

Motion: Dr. Azzolino moved to rescind the prior approval of the proposed regulatory text from February 13, 2025, approve the newly proposed regulatory text to amend California Code of Regulations, title 16, sections 390.4 and 390.5 presented in the meeting materials, direct the Executive Officer to take all steps necessary to initiate the rulemaking process, authorize the Executive Officer to make any technical or non-substantive changes to the rulemaking package, notice the proposed text for a 45-day comment period and, if no adverse comments are received during the 45-day comment period and no hearing is requested, adopt the proposed regulatory change.

Second: Dr. Paris seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None.

Vote: 5-0 (Dr. Adams-AYE, Dr. Daniels-AYE, Ms. Cruz-AYE, Dr. Azzolino-AYE, and Dr. Paris-AYE).

Motion: Carried.

14. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action Related to Comment Received During the 45-Day Public Comment Period for Regulatory Proposal to Repeal CCR, Title 16, Section 354 (Successful Examination)

Ms. Walker explained the Board's proposal to repeal CCR, title 16, section 354 was noticed on January 3, 2025, for a 45-day public comment period that concluded on February 18, 2025. She stated the Board received one adverse comment on the proposal and presented a handout containing a proposed response to the comment for the Board's consideration.

Motion: Dr. Daniels moved to direct staff to decline the actions requested in the adverse comment, approve the proposed response to the comment, use the proposed response for completing the rulemaking process, and take all steps necessary to complete the rulemaking process, and to authorize the Executive Officer to make any technical or non-substantive changes to the proposal, and adopt the proposed repeal of California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 354, either as described in the proposed text or with any potential amendments, if no relevant, adverse comments are received within a modified text comment period.

Second: Dr. Azzolino seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None.

Vote: 5-0 (Dr. Adams-AYE, Dr. Daniels-AYE, Ms. Cruz-AYE, Dr. Azzolino-AYE, and Dr. Paris-AYE).

Motion: Carried.

15. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on Legislation Related to the Board, the Chiropractic Profession, DCA, and/or Other Healing Arts Boards

- A. Assembly Bill (AB) 260 (Aguiar-Curry) Sexual and reproductive health care.
- B. AB 479 (Tangipa) Criminal procedure: vacatur relief.
- C. AB 489 (Bonta) Health care professions: deceptive terms or letters: artificial intelligence.
- D. AB 601 (Jackson) Child abuse: reporting.
- E. AB 667 (Solache) Professions and vocations: license examinations: interpreters.
- F. AB 742 (Elhawary) Department of Consumer Affairs: licensing: applicants who are descendants of slaves.
- G. AB 1298 (Harabedian) The Department of Consumer Affairs.
- H. AB 1431 (Tangipa) Personal income taxes: credit: medical services: rural areas.
- I. AB 1434 (Michelle Rodriguez) Health care boards: workforce data collection.
- J. Senate Bill (SB) 81 (Arreguín) Health and care facilities: information sharing.
- K. SB 470 (Laird) Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act: teleconferencing.
- L. SB 641 (Ashby) Department of Consumer Affairs and Department of Real Estate: states of emergency: waivers and exemptions.
- M. SB 687 (Ochoa Bogh) Chiropractors: animal chiropractic practitioners.
- N. SB 806 (Dahle) Department of Consumer Affairs.
- O. SB 861 (Committee on Business, Professions and Economic Development) Consumer affairs.

Ms. Walker indicated AB 1298 (Harabedian), AB 1434 (Michelle Rodriguez), and SB 806 (Dahle) are spot bills and the DCA healing arts boards were recently removed from AB 667 (Solache).

She explained staff is monitoring AB 260 (Aguiar-Curry), which would prohibit a healing arts board from denying an application for licensure or taking disciplinary against a licensee based on an activity related to any drug used for medical abortion if that action would have been lawful in this state, and she noted the provisions of the bill would only apply to the Board's licensees who also hold licenses in other health disciplines such as medicine or nursing.

She stated AB 479 (Tangipa) would require the court to make findings regarding the impact on the public health, safety, and welfare before vacating a conviction for a substantially related offense to the petitioner's license and would also require the petitioner to serve the petition and supporting documentation on the applicable licensing entity and would give the licensing entity 45 days to respond to the petition for relief.

Ms. Walker shared that AB 489 (Bonta) would make existing provisions of law that prohibit the use of terms, letters, or phrases to falsely indicate or imply possession of a license or certificate to practice a health care profession enforceable against an entity who develops or deploys AI or generative AI (GenAI) technology. She estimated an annual fiscal impact of approximately \$13,000 to the Board for staff to monitor the use of AI and GenAI in the chiropractic profession for potential violations.

Ms. Cruz emphasized the need to closely watch AB 489 due to the rapid increase in use of AI-generated, doctor-validated technology in health care. She provided an example of a patient visit where the health care provider uses an AI agent to take notes of the patient encounter and based on a prompt, the AI agent makes a recommendation for the treatment plan. Dr. Azzolino stated AI is already being adopted in many practices, but the doctor is ultimately responsible for the documentation and treatment. Dr. Daniels suggested further discussion regarding the regulation of AI within the chiropractic profession, including patient disclosures and the replacement of chiropractic assistants with AI.

Ms. Walker indicated AB 601 (Jackson) would require the State Department of Social Services to develop a standardized curriculum for mandated reporters by July 1, 2027, and require employers of mandated reporters to ensure completion of the training within the first three months of employment or by March 1, 2030, whichever is later.

Ms. Walker reported AB 742 (Elhawary) would require DCA boards to prioritize applicants seeking licensure who are descendants of American slaves if SB 518 (Weber Pierson) is enacted establishing the Bureau for Descendants of American Slavery. She noted other DCA programs have concerns regarding the unclear use of the term “prioritize” in the bill and how it differs from the existing requirements to expedite applicants under qualifying circumstances. She added there is no anticipated fiscal impact on the Board from the bill because the Board does not have any backlogs in licensing applications and would follow DCA’s guidance on implementation if the bill passes.

Dr. Daniels suggested seeking an exemption from AB 742 because the Board does not have any application backlogs so the provisions would actually increase the Board’s processing times by requiring an additional verification of documentation.

Ms. Walker shared that AB 1431 (Tangipa) would allow a personal income tax credit of up to \$5,000 per year for qualified income earned for medical services performed in a rural area during 2025 through 2031.

Dr. Paris commented that this bill would affect many licensees because federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) and rural health clinics (RHCs) employ a significant number of licensees, particularly in California.

Ms. Walker explained SB 81 (Arreguín) would revise the definition of “medical information” to include immigration status and place of birth and would prohibit a health care provider from allowing access to a patient for immigration enforcement to the extent possible and permitted by state and federal law.

Ms. Walker explained SB 470 (Laird) would extend the repeal date of the alternative set of provisions under which a state body may hold meetings by teleconference from January 1, 2026, to January 1, 2030, and recommended the Board support the bill.

Motion: Dr. Azzolino moved for the Board to support SB 470.

Second: Ms. Cruz seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None.

Vote: 5-0 (Dr. Adams-AYE, Dr. Daniels-AYE, Ms. Cruz-AYE, Dr. Azzolino-AYE, and Dr. Paris-AYE).

Motion: Carried.

Ms. Walker summarized SB 641 (Ashby), which would authorize the Department of Real Estate and DCA boards to waive certain provisions of the licensure requirements for licensees and applicants impacted by a declared federal, state, or local emergency or whose home or business is located in a declared disaster area, including examination, fee, and CE requirements, and would require all applicants and licensees to provide the board or department with an email address.

Dr. Paris questioned whether SB 641 has a fiscal impact on the Board because there are costs associated with processing address changes and providing other disaster-related relief to licensees. Ms. Walker clarified that those costs are attributed to the disaster, not the provisions of the bill. Ms. Cruz added that the bill gives the Board the flexibility it needs to address the specific needs of its license population in response to a disaster.

Motion: Dr. Azzolino moved for the Board to support SB 641.

Second: Dr. Daniels seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None.

Vote: 5-0 (Dr. Adams-AYE, Dr. Daniels-AYE, Ms. Cruz-AYE, Dr. Azzolino-AYE, and Dr. Paris-AYE).

Motion: Carried.

Ms. Walker explained SB 861 (Committee on Business, Professions and Economic Development) is an omnibus bill that includes the Board's proposal to add the Board to the list of DCA programs with explicit statutory authority to obtain and receive state and federal criminal history information, and that by adding the Board to this list, the bill would authorize the Board to receive certified records of arrests, convictions, and probation and other related documentation from local and state agencies.

Motion: Dr. Azzolino moved for the Board to support SB 861.

Second: Dr. Adams seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None.

Vote: 5-0 (Dr. Adams-AYE, Dr. Daniels-AYE, Ms. Cruz-AYE, Dr. Azzolino-AYE, and Dr. Paris-AYE).

Motion: Carried.

Ms. Walker presented SB 687 (Ochoa Bogh), which would prohibit a chiropractor who is not under the supervision of a veterinarian from practicing animal chiropractic without being registered as an animal chiropractic practitioner by the Board and holding a current, valid certification from the American Veterinary Chiropractic Association (AVCA), the International Veterinary Chiropractic Association (IVCA), or any other organization the Board specifies through regulation. She stated the bill would require the Board to establish requirements for registration and conditions for practicing animal chiropractic and to consult with the Veterinary Medical Board (VMB) if adopting standards of care for an animal. She added the bill would also require an animal chiropractic practitioner to comply with the Board's regulations applicable to chiropractors and exempt animal chiropractic practitioners from the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act. She explained the bill has an estimated fiscal impact of \$63,000 in initial implementation costs and registration and enforcement costs of approximately \$75,000 in 2026–27, \$135,000 in 2027–28, and \$131,000 ongoing. She recommended the Board consider requesting fee authority within the bill to cover the costs.

Public Comment: Grant Miller, DVM, a veterinarian and the Director of Regulatory Affairs at the California Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA), stated he represents a coalition of over 122,000 veterinarians nationally who are opposed to SB 687. He stated CVMA is opposed to SB 687 because it permits an expansion of the chiropractic scope of practice based on a certification course, there are no animal training components of a core licensure education for a chiropractor, and CVMA has significant concerns about the bill allowing chiropractors to expand their scope of practice to include animal species. He stated a chiropractic course is insufficient to do that based on the wide array of animal species that chiropractors may come into contact with and CVMA thinks it is in the best interest and protection both consumers and animals to continue using the current model that allows chiropractors to work under the direct supervision of a

veterinarian which creates a collaboration between the professions and provides protection and oversight for animals and consumers. He stated the bill would task the Board with creating regulations to determine how the animal chiropractors will do their work and make the Board investigate any complaints, and he questioned if the Board is equipped to do that or has expertise in animal species. He stated this is the practice of veterinary medicine and VMB should have jurisdiction. He also presented CVMA's opposition letter to SB 687.

The Board directed Ms. Walker to communicate with Senator Ochoa Bogh's office on the bill, including the potential inclusion of fee authority.

16. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action on the Recognition and Advertising of Chiropractic Specialties (CCR, Title 16, sections 311 and 311.1)

Ms. Walker introduced this agenda item and explained the Medical Board of California (MBC) and other programs have provisions that strengthen consumer protection by limiting the use of terms such as "board certified" in advertising unless the licensee meets specified requirements. She asked the Board to engage in a policy discussion regarding the recognition and advertising of chiropractic specialties and to consider whether this issue should be developed for inclusion in the Board's 2026 sunset review report.

Dr. Azzolino explained it is in the public's best interest to have DCs only be recognized as a specialist if they have achieved a certain level of training and suggested referring the matter to a committee for development. Dr. Adams concurred.

Dr. Daniels asked about the Board's ability to create the qualifications for the recognition of specialty programs. Ms. Walker stated the Board could pursue a legislative or regulatory proposal to establish standards and shared staff's concerns regarding misleading advertising involving neuropathy specialists. Dr. Azzolino noted the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) and International Accreditation Service (IAS) have already established certification standards that could be explored.

The Board agreed to establish a subcommittee on chiropractic specialties to develop recommendations to the Board. Dr. Adams suggested using the Federation of Chiropractic Licensing Boards (FCLB) Recognized Chiropractic Specialty Programs (RCSP) criteria as a starting point for the subcommittee's discussions.

Public Comment: None.

17. Discussion and Possible Action on Board's 2026 Sunset Review

- A. Action Plan to Prepare for 2026 Sunset Review
- B. Status of Issues and Recommendations from the Board's 2022 Sunset Review
- C. Develop Recommendation on the Composition of Licensee and Public Members on the Board (2022 Sunset Review, Issue #1)
- D. Identify Policy Issues to Potentially Include in 2026 Sunset Review Report

Ms. Walker provided an overview of the sunset review process and explained the Board must respond to the issues identified in 2022 as part of the 2026 sunset review report. She asked the Board to discuss Issue #1 from the Board's 2022 review regarding whether the Board's composition needs to be updated to include additional members of the public or non-chiropractic medical professionals. She explained staff reviewed the composition of the other DCA boards and generally found that healing arts boards typically have a majority of licensee members whereas non-healing arts boards have a public member majority. She also noted the legal issues regarding the North Carolina Dental Board case and the need for active state supervision have been addressed through statutory authority that allows the DCA Director to intervene on enforcement matters when necessary.

Dr. Azzolino recalled that the issue of state board compositions was originally the result of the North Carolina Dental Board case, but no changes were needed in California because the DCA Director can step in if needed. Dr. Adams concurred and commented that the Board has been working cohesively together with input from the public members that is helpful in guiding policy discussions. Dr. Daniels noted the 2022 sunset background paper proposed potentially adding a licensee of another healing arts board to the Board, but there have not been any reciprocal proposals to place DCs on other healing arts boards.

Dr. Paris asked about the fiscal impact of adding more public members to the Board. Ms. Walker indicated the fiscal impact would not be significant, but by increasing the total number of members on the Board, it would require additional coordination to schedule meetings.

Dr. Azzolino explained that any changes to the composition of the Board would require an amendment to the Chiropractic Initiative Act so the Board should recommend keeping it as is. Dr. Daniels agreed and proposed including historical evidence of the work the Board has accomplished, including 21 regulatory proposals and a significant reduction in the number of pending enforcement cases.

Ms. Walker continued with the agenda and suggested the Board consider exploring additional enforcement tools, such as provisions for the automatic revocation of a license upon a second insurance fraud conviction, in the new issues section of the 2026 sunset review report. Dr. Azzolino added the Board should consider issues involving advertising and social media to protect patients.

Ms. Walker also proposed exploring a potential pilot program for licensure upon graduation and reiterated the recommendation for the Board to potentially include practice-based questions in the CCLE.

Public Comment: None.

The Board moved to Agenda Item 19.

19. Future Agenda Items

Dr. Azzolino asked the Board to revisit the two-day meetings and streamline them to one day, requested the October 9–10, 2025 meeting be changed to another date due to a scheduling conflict, and recommended the Board incorporate student participation into future meetings on chiropractic campuses.

Dr. Paris requested the Board revisit the discussion on the acceptance of FCLB's Providers of Approved Continuing Education (PACE) courses and invite representatives from PACE to clarify misconceptions about their course audit process. He suggested discussions with FCLB's RCSP and the American Chiropractic Association (ACA) on the future of the recognition of chiropractic specialties. He also proposed establishing a subcommittee of Board members to assist staff with clinical and practice-related questions regarding CE course applications.

Dr. Daniels requested a conversation regarding AI within chiropractic practice.

Ms. Cruz requested a discussion on the timelines within the Board's communications and outreach plans and clarification of the definitions and associated fees for the various license statuses.

Public Comment: None.

The Board returned to Agenda Item 18.

18. Closed Session

The Board met in closed session to deliberate on disciplinary matters pursuant to Government Code section 11126, subdivision (c)(3).

20. Recess Until Friday, April 18, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

The Board reconvened to open session and recessed at 2:24 p.m. until Friday, April 18, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

Friday, April 18, 2025

21. Call to Order / Roll Call / Establishment of a Quorum

Dr. Adams called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Ms. Cruz called the roll. Mr. Sweet was excused from the meeting. All other members were present, and a quorum was established.

22. Petition Hearings for Early Termination of Probation

- A. Jae Ho Park, D.C., License No. DC 26114, Case No. AC 2021-1318
- B. Joshua Han Cho, D.C., License No. DC 27731, Case No. AC 2018-1163

Administrative Law Judge Karen Reichmann presided over a hearing before the Board in the matter of the petition for early termination of probation by Jae Ho Park, D.C. Dr. Park represented himself and Deputy Attorney General Leslie Brast represented the Attorney General of the State of California pursuant to Government Code section 11522.

Administrative Law Judge Karen Reichmann presided over a hearing before the Board in the matter of the petition for early termination of probation by Joshua Han Cho, D.C. Dr. Cho represented himself and Deputy Attorney General Leslie Brast represented the Attorney General of the State of California pursuant to Government Code section 11522.

23. Petition Hearing for Reinstatement of Revoked License

- Hakop Derbeshyan, License No. DC 31249, Case No. AC 2017-1150

Administrative Law Judge Karen Reichmann presided over a hearing before the Board in the matter of the petition for reinstatement of a revoked license by Hakop Derbeshyan. Justin Small represented Mr. Derbeshyan, who was present, and Deputy Attorney General Leslie Brast represented the Attorney General of the State of California pursuant to Government Code section 11522.

24. Petition Hearing for Reinstatement of Surrendered License

- Vicente Eduardo Lujan, License No. DC 34013, Case No. AC 2021-1357

Administrative Law Judge Karen Reichmann presided over a hearing before the Board in the matter of the petition for reinstatement of a surrendered license by Vicente Eduardo Lujan. Mr. Lujan represented himself and Deputy Attorney General Leslie Brast represented the State of California pursuant to Government Code section 11522.

25. Closed Session

The Board met in closed session to deliberate and vote on the above petitions pursuant to Government Code section 11126, subdivision (c)(3).

26. Adjournment

The Board reconvened to open session, and Dr. Adams adjourned the meeting at 1:23 p.m.

Attachment A

List of Approved Applications for Initial Doctor of Chiropractic Licenses Issued from February 1, 2025 to March 31, 2025

First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Date Issued	License No.
Kevin	Robert	Ramos Jr.	02/02/2025	DC 35256
Anthony	Le	Duong	02/02/2025	DC 35257
Caryl Joyce	Andaya	Agleam	02/02/2025	DC 35258
Jeffrey	Bassitte	Davis	02/07/2025	DC 35259
Grace	R.	Cho	02/12/2025	DC 35260
Brian	Kwangsu	Lee	02/12/2025	DC 35261
Davood		Rokni	02/20/2025	DC 35262
Peter	John	Polski	02/28/2025	DC 35263
Elissa		Munoz	02/01/2025	DC 37175
Luke	Christopher	Sanchez	02/01/2025	DC 37176
Katherine		Spriet	02/01/2025	DC 37177
Charles	Dean	Oliver	02/01/2025	DC 37178
Jardin	Desiree	Webb	02/05/2025	DC 37179
Jamie		Townsend	02/05/2025	DC 37180
Katherine	M.	Clark	02/05/2025	DC 37181
Vincent		Jones	02/05/2025	DC 37182
William		Choi	02/05/2025	DC 37183
Hector	C.	Ayala	02/05/2025	DC 37184
Lorenzo	Rafael	Monta	02/05/2025	DC 37185
Jacklyn	Victoria	Garcia	02/05/2025	DC 37186
Ryan	Michael	Inglehart	02/05/2025	DC 37187
Kristina	Mae	Heafner	02/07/2025	DC 37188
Juliana		Mishreki	02/07/2025	DC 37189
Lucas	Nicolas	Leiva	02/07/2025	DC 37190
Orr	Joseph	Soffer	02/07/2025	DC 37191

First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Date Issued	License No.
Dylan		Green	02/07/2025	DC 37192
Issac		Chai	02/07/2025	DC 37193
Sharon	Seoyeon	Kim	02/11/2025	DC 37194
Adam	Kuno	DeWitt	02/11/2025	DC 37195
Vanessa		Andrade	02/11/2025	DC 37196
Ali		Khoshbin	02/11/2025	DC 37197
Elliot	Francis Ali	Foad	02/11/2025	DC 37198
Moises	Isaiah	Azua	02/11/2025	DC 37199
Dannis		Singh	02/11/2025	DC 37200
Samuel	Karo	Duzaryan	02/11/2025	DC 37201
Jacques Rolan	Tamoria	Valenzuela	02/11/2025	DC 37202
Gabriella		Peri	02/11/2025	DC 37203
Destiny	Samantha	Corletto	02/11/2025	DC 37204
Westyn		Narvaez	02/11/2025	DC 37205
Jugal		Patel	02/11/2025	DC 37206
Insaf	Bahia	El-Kara	02/11/2025	DC 37207
Brandon		Ramirez	02/11/2025	DC 37208
Jael		Lacayo	02/12/2025	DC 37209
Jayson	Kyle	Fields Jr.	02/12/2025	DC 37210
Nelson		Peraza	02/12/2025	DC 37211
Jose	Ernesto	Buenfil Vargas	02/13/2025	DC 37212
Kendrick		Ladao	02/14/2025	DC 37213
Courtney	Lynn	Dean	02/14/2025	DC 37214
An-Jan		Wang	02/14/2025	DC 37215
Anmy	Hanh	Tran	02/18/2025	DC 37216
Andrea	Maria	Garay Gutierrez	02/19/2025	DC 37217
Cristian	Gabriel	Leigsring Quiroa	02/19/2025	DC 37218
Kira	Alexandra	Roe	02/19/2025	DC 37219

First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Date Issued	License No.
Carlos	Miguel	Lapresca	02/19/2025	DC 37220
Nicholas		Hicks	02/21/2025	DC 37221
Tiffany		Nguyen	02/21/2025	DC 37222
Katelynn		Diedrich	02/21/2025	DC 37223
Jieminbrandon		Lee	02/21/2025	DC 37224
Mikayla		King	02/21/2025	DC 37225
Manvir	Kaur	Takhar	02/24/2025	DC 37226
Pamela	Jane	Tran	02/25/2025	DC 37227
Shahira		Haidary	02/26/2025	DC 37228
Delwyn	Kai Jie	Lee	02/28/2025	DC 37229
Nathan		James	03/03/2025	DC 37230
Levon	Andranik	Ekmekchyan	03/03/2025	DC 37231
Richard	David	Scandlyn	03/04/2025	DC 37232
Alexander	James	Weber	03/04/2025	DC 37233
Adriana	Sariah	Tonga	03/04/2025	DC 37234
Christina		Landreth	03/04/2025	DC 37235
Rebecca		Friesen	03/04/2025	DC 37236
James Beam	Evangelista	San Valentin	03/05/2025	DC 37237
Louie		Arias	03/05/2025	DC 37238
Alan	Phillip	Burnsed	03/06/2025	DC 37239
Sun	Tong	Jiang	03/06/2025	DC 37240
Rafi		Balikcioglu	03/06/2025	DC 37241
Cristofer		Tamarit	03/06/2025	DC 37242
Jacky Yan Chun		Wong	03/07/2025	DC 37243
Xavier	Anthony	Cortes	03/10/2025	DC 37244
Macie	Michelle	Biermann	03/10/2025	DC 37245
Adam	Lee	Harris	03/11/2025	DC 37246
Louie		Maldonado	03/11/2025	DC 37247

First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Date Issued	License No.
Bhuwanashwar		Dyal	03/11/2025	DC 37248
Brenda		Gonzalez	03/11/2025	DC 37249
Julius	Alexander	Agasid	03/11/2025	DC 37250
David	Christian	Barney	03/11/2025	DC 37251
Dylan	Robey Dumlao	Little	03/12/2025	DC 37252
Jose		Beltran III	03/13/2025	DC 37253
Douglas		Miyasato	03/13/2025	DC 37254
Paul	Valentino	Badaracco	03/13/2025	DC 37255
Caemlyn	Alissa	Matthews	03/13/2025	DC 37256
Laura	Louise	Schaffer	03/14/2025	DC 37257
Hoang	Thanh	Pham	03/14/2025	DC 37258
Thomas		Fermor	03/14/2025	DC 37259
Christopher	Thanh-Hai	Dang	03/14/2025	DC 37260
Ido	David	Baruch	03/14/2025	DC 37261
Elizabeth		Wong	03/17/2025	DC 37262
Ryan	August	Pierra	03/18/2025	DC 37263
Nareg		Babayans	03/19/2025	DC 37264
Zachary	James	Sattler	03/19/2025	DC 37265
Cristian	Santillan	Suarez	03/20/2025	DC 37266
James	Peter	Lynn	03/25/2025	DC 37267
Brandon	Oswaldo	Ramos	03/25/2025	DC 37268
Alissa	Ann	Phelps	03/26/2025	DC 37269
Angel	Jesus	Hinojos	03/27/2025	DC 37270
Chloe		Haile	03/27/2025	DC 37271
Hannah	Elizabeth	Waldron	03/28/2025	DC 37272

Attachment B

List of Approved New Continuing Education Providers

Provider Name	CE Oversight Contact Person	Provider Status
Arete Services LLC	Jacy Rock c/o Friday15	Corporation
United College	Mahnaz Rahmani	University/College
Deborah Ben-Shah	Deborah Ben-Shah	Individual
Meri Melikjanyan Matti	Meri Melikjanyan Matti	Corporation