

# SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY & AUDIOLOGY & HEARING AID DISPENSERS BOARD 1601 Response Road, Suite 260, Sacramento, CA 95815

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# BOARD MEETING MINUTES Teleconference Meeting October 7-8, 2021

For the sake of clarity, the meeting minutes are organized in numerical order to reflect their original order on the agenda; however, issues were taken out of order during the meeting.

# **Speech-Language Pathology Practice Committee**

1. Call to Order / Roll Call / Establishment of Quorum

Holly Kaiser, Board Vice Chair, called the Speech-Language Pathology Practice Committee (Committee) meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Ms. Kaiser called roll; three members of the Committee were present and thus a quorum was established.

#### **Committee Members Present**

Holly Kaiser, SLP, Board Vice Chair Gilda Dominguez, SLP, Board Member Debbie Snow, Public Board Member

# **Staff Present**

Paul Sanchez, Executive Officer
Cherise Burns, Assistant Executive Officer
Lisa Snelling, Licensing Coordinator
Tenisha Ashford, Enforcement Coordinator
Heather Olivares, Legislation/Regulation Analyst
Maria Liranzo, Legislation/Regulation/Budget Analyst
Michael Kanotz, DCA Legal Counsel
Karen Halbo, DCA Regulations Counsel
Ann Fisher, DCA SOLID
Trisha St. Clair, DCA SOLID
Bryce Penney, DCA Web Cast

2. Public Comment for Items not on the Agenda

There were no comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

3. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Continuing Professional Development Requirements for Speech-Language Pathologists and Speech-Language Pathology Assistants (As Stated in Title 16, CCR sections 1399.160 through 1399.160.13 and Title 16, CCR section 1399.170.14)

Holly Kaiser provided a summary on continuing professional development (CPD) requirements for Speech-Language Pathologists (SLP). Ms. Kaiser commented on the Board-approved regulatory revisions in 2015 and 2016 and considerations made for additional revisions at its last meeting in August 2021.

Ms. Kaiser identified the recent regulatory changes to add new terms to the list of definitions under section 1399.160. Ms. Kaiser commented on an error to subsection 1399.160(e) that defines renewal period and stated it should be "license's next expiration date" not "licensee's". Gilda Dominguez commented on the definition being clear and based on previous discussions. Debbie Snow expressed agreement with the suggested changes.

Ms. Kaiser identified the recent regulatory changes to the CPD requirements under section 1399.160.3 which reduces all the limitations to self-study. Ms. Kaiser opened the discussion on limits to self-study. Ms. Dominguez commented on the flexibility that 50 percent provides and the evolution of virtual learning during the COVID pandemic. Ms. Kaiser inquired if the current number is appropriate. Ms. Dominguez commented on 50 percent being an appropriate number and inquired if this should be clarified for first time license renewals. Cherise Burns stated that Board staff would be able to make the necessary changes to the proposed regulatory language according to what the Committee approves. Paul Sanchez noted the section Ms. Dominguez is referring to is section 1399.160.3(a). Ms. Kaiser commented on increasing the hours to 75 percent but expressed agreement with 50 percent. Ms. Snow expressed agreement with 50 percent being appropriate.

Ms. Kaiser recommended to the Board to consider the discussed revisions to the previously Board-approved proposed regulation which adds new terms to the list of definitions and have the self-study hours to be 50 percent.

There were no comments on this item from the public.

There was no additional Board discussion on the motion.

Debbie Snow made a motion to recommend to the Board the propose regulatory revisions.

Gilda Dominguez seconded the motion.

**The motion carried 3-0.** (Ayes: Kaiser, Dominguez, Snow)

The meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

#### **Hearing Aid Dispensers Practice Committee**

4. Call to Order / Roll Call / Establishment of Quorum

Tod Borges, Committee Chair, called the Hearing Aid Dispensers Committee (Committee) meeting to order at 1:21 p.m. Mr. Borges called roll; three members of the Committee were present and thus a quorum was not established.

#### Committee Members Present

Tod Borges, HAD, Board Member Marcia Raggio, AuD, Board Chair Karen Chang, Public Board Member

#### Staff Present

Paul Sanchez, Executive Officer
Cherise Burns, Assistant Executive Officer
Lisa Snelling, Licensing Coordinator
Tenisha Ashford, Enforcement Coordinator
Heather Olivares, Legislation/Regulation Analyst
Maria Liranzo, Legislation/Regulation/Budget Analyst
Michael Kanotz, DCA Legal Counsel
Karen Halbo, DCA Regulations Counsel
Brianna Miller, DCA Executive Office
Ann Fisher, DCA Web Cast
Trisha St. Clair, DCA Web Cast
Bryce Penney, DCA Web Cast

# Guests Present April Dolan, AuD

Joanne Slater, AuD

1. Public Comment for Items not on the Agenda

There were no comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations for items not on the agenda.

2. Discussion Regarding Continuing Education Course Content Requirements for Hearing Aid Dispensers and Dispensing Audiologists (As Stated in Title 16, CCR section 1399.140.1)

Tod Borges opened the discussion on section 1399.140.1(a)(2) regarding the continuing education (CE) requirements on related or indirect client care. Mr. Borges expressed concerns about not allowing dispensers to further their education on the programming of hearing aids and commented on past and current CE requirements for manufacturer led seminars.

Dr. Marcia Raggio inquired about examples of courses that are not infomercials but yet would be informational for dispensers. Mr. Borges replied with information on course availability and current CE providers, Hearing Aid Assistance Program and AudiologyOnline. Dr. Raggio inquired about courses provided by AudiologyOnline that

aren't manufacturer sponsored. Tod Borges replied that the course he would like to see will most likely be manufacturer sponsored and described the type of manufacturer-sponsored courses he has seen that dispensers would benefit. Dr. Raggio expressed agreement that the regulatory language is a little too broad and eliminates courses that Mr. Borges described. Dr. Raggio commented on developing language that would allow the type of courses that Mr. Borges described, but crafted so that people understand what is and isn't a hearing aid manufacturer related course. Mr. Borges expressed agreement on crafting the language clearly and commented on the benefits the change would bring.

Karen Chang inquired if the current language in section 1399.140.1(a) cover what the Committee discussed. Mr. Borges replied that the courses will talk about a particular hearing aid. Ms. Chang further inquired if the programming is different for each hearing aid. Mr. Borges replied with information on the differences and how one could extrapolate the information from one device to another.

Dr. Raggio commented on past manufacturer-sponsored, in-service meetings and noted that the manufacturing community would be able to adapt to Board's requirements if changes are made. Mr. Borges suggested that the regulatory language can stipulate a certain amount of hours on courses for manufacturer hearing aid equipment and devices and new products cannot be introduced. Mr. Borges provided an example of a BiCROS course approved for audiology education hours and not for hearing aid dispensers. Cherise Burns commented on the regulatory language for CE providers and CE course approval process and suggested this is something the Audiology Practice Committee could review.

Dr. Raggio commented on arguments previously raised when the revisions were made to remove manufacturer-sponsored course and noted dispensers can attend to learn about new products, but they wouldn't be counted toward CE hours. Mr. Borges commented on the benefits of allowing some courses to be counted towards CE hours. Dr. Raggio and Ms. Chang expressed their agreement to review the regulatory language for revision.

There were no comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations on the discussion regarding the CE requirements on related or indirect client care.

Mr. Borges opened the discussion on section 1399.140.1(a)(1) regarding CE requirements on direct client care. Ms. Burns commented on the definition of direct care and inquired if terms such as "programming" should be included. Mr. Borges replied that changes in other sections would have to be made if the language is changed to include programming and troubleshooting. Ms. Burns commented on the benefits of the change for Board staff and the course approval process. Ms. Chang expressed agreement with the remarks made and commented on the problem of listing out subjects.

Ms. Burns inquired about the definition of the practice of fitting hearing aids. Dr. Raggio and Mr. Borges expressed their agreement that the definition of the practice of fitting hearing aids includes improvement of consumers' ability to use the hearing aids. Ms. Burns further inquired if the practice of fitting of hearing aids includes all the diagnostic

hearing tests. Dr. Marcia Raggio acknowledged Ms. Burns remarks and commented on differences in the scope of practice for dispensing audiologist and hearing aid dispensers. Mr. Borges suggested to use the same language used in dispensers' testing. Ms. Burns stated that the section being discussed is in the Hearing Aid Dispenser regulations and noted that regulations for dispensing audiologists will reference this section. Mr. Borges suggested to table this item for the moment in order to tackle the CE requirement on related or indirect client care. Dr. Raggio commented on the current language for 1399.140.1(a)(1) being acceptable since a practitioner will understand the scope of fitting a hearing aid and added that there is a danger to creating a listing and missing items. Karen Chang and Mr. Borges expressed their agreement with the current language being acceptable.

Ms. Chang commented on the BiCROS course that Mr. Borges described earlier and inquired if this is a specific manufacturer. Mr. Borges replied that they are multiple BiCROS companies. Ms. Chang commented on courses provided by one manufacturer compared to multiple manufacturers. Mr. Borges commented on the importance of having a good understanding in the manufacturer's product that your consumer is using.

Dr. April Dolan, CE Administrator with AudiologyOnline, commented on being available to answer any questions about AudiologyOnline that may help with this process. Mr. Borges extended his appreciation for any information provided as the Committee moves forward in the process.

Dr. Raggio asked if Board staff can define or provide examples of courses approved as "managed care issues" under section 1399.140.1(a)(2). Ms. Burns deferred to Lisa Snelling and commented it could be related to coverage of the hearing aid. Ms. Snelling described courses that would be consider managed care issues. Dr. Raggio stated that the courses described would fall under the practice of fitting. Paul Sanchez commented on defining broad terms like "managed care" and noted that this may be related to healthcare coverage and guiding a client through a third-party administrator or health insurance related issues. Dr. Raggio, Mr. Borges, and Ms. Chang expressed their agreement that the term should be defined as being related to health insurance.

Dr. Dolan commented on the courses offered on insurance and manufacturer-sponsored courses. Dr. Dolan further commented on feedback from members who attended manufacturer-sponsored courses and noted the BiCROS course previously mentioned included pediatric, therefore it wasn't offered to hearing aid dispensers. Dr. Raggio inquired about courses related to insurance or third-party administrator. Dr. Dolan replied that there are a few courses. Ms. Chang stated that she saw four videos on managed care issues on their website.

Dr. Joanne Slater, Director of CE Administration with AudiologyOnline, commented on the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) continuing education units (CEUs) and California CE requirements for hearing aid dispensers. Dr. Slater further commented on the dispenser's regulations for product-based courses and noted that managed care courses are provided by insurance companies with the intent to sell

products. Dr. Slater stated that courses on managed care would not be offered to non-audiologist hearing aid dispensers because dispensers cannot bill insurance companies. Dr. Marcia Raggio inquired if dispensers cannot bill insurance companies. Tod Borges replied that it is not quite correct because he has billed to insurance companies and noted that the vast majority will only work with audiologists and not hearing aid dispensers as a general rule. Dr. Raggio commented on Medi-Cal being able to. Mr. Borges expressed agreement with Medi-Cal being able to work with hearing aid dispensers and noted Medi-Cal is different from Medicaid.

Mr. Borges opened the discussion on legal or ethics courses and asked if legal and ethical issues should be included as an in-direct client course definition. Karen Chang commented on cases seen by the Board are due to an ethical lapse. Dr. Raggio stated that legal or ethics courses are included in the requirements. Mr. Borges clarified his inquiry and asked if this should be its own issue, separate and pulled out from the definition. Cherise Burns commented on the limit of anything outside of direct client care, which includes legal and ethics courses. Ms. Chang suggested to keep the three hours for anything outside of direct client care but a separate hours limit for legal or ethics courses.

Ms. Burns commented on other boards requirements for legal or ethics courses. Mr. Borges expressed concerns about requiring coursework in that category and would like to see how many courses are actually available. Dr. Raggio stated that the California Academy of Audiology has historically made it a point to include legal or ethics courses in their annual conferences and has been able to find providers and speakers on the topic. Mr. Borges commented on the availability of courses to the broader community such as online. Dr. Raggio commented on the current language being acceptable. Paul Sanchez commented on the regulation limiting the number of hours for this topic and noted the enforcement problem in this area. Mr. Borges stated he has no objection and commented on the benefits changes would bring. Ms. Burns stated that there could be a discussion on the number of hours in the next agenda, if the Committee finds the definition acceptable.

Dr. April Dolan, CE Administrator with AudiologyOnline, stated that Dr. Joanne Slater will be able to provide a more comprehensive answer to any questions the Board may have through email.

Mr. Borges opened the discussion on section 1399.140.1(a)(3) regarding additional hearing loss or hearing related health issues that are not named in the definition of courses that are related to the discipline of hearing aid dispensing that should be added. Dr. Raggio commented on the existing language and additional language to broaden awareness on different populations with hearing loss. Mr. Sanchez inquired if the additional language would be to expand the regulation. Dr. Raggio replied with a suggestion to table this item for development and further discussion. Ms. Burns commented on future discussion to add language about different population and the limited number of hours.

Mr. Borges commented on being open to additional hours in related or indirect client care courses. Dr. Raggio inquired if courses on AudiologyOnline are in units of three or four. Lisa Snelling replied that they are usually one hour or two hours but most of them are one hour. Dr. Raggio suggested four hours as a reasonable change. Tod Borges expressed agreement to add an additional hour and commented on the benefits of this change. Karen Chang expressed agreement with the change for an additional hour.

There were no comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations on the discussion regarding additional hearing loss or hearing related health issues that are not named in the definition of courses that should be added.

Ms. Borges opened the discussion on additional course subjects that should be identified as outside the scope. Mr. Borges clarified that these are subjects that would not be allowed. Dr. Raggio inquired if this creates a list problem. Ms. Burns replied that this list is small and shared the current language in section 1399.140.1(b). Dr. Raggio inquired if it is necessary to stipulate medical diagnostic testing that an audiologist might do that a hearing aid dispenser is not allowed to do. Ms. Burns replied that the language can be included. Mr. Borges inquired if subjects not allowed from the manufacturer have to be added to the list of outside scope of acceptable course content. Ms. Burns suggested to clean up the regulation and move the second sentence in section 1399.140.1(a) to 1399.140.1(b).

Dr. Raggio inquired for a list of disallowed courses and course topics that people have attempted to pass as a hearing aid dispenser CE but were denied. Ms. Burns replied that Board staff can look into putting a list together and guessed that it would mostly likely be about specific products. Lisa Snelling stated that denied courses were for a particular product or beyond the scope of practice for a hearing aid dispenser, usually having to do with tinnitus. Ms. Snelling further stated that the Board has seen courses on teambuilding or building your business, which were also denied. Mr. Borges inquired if the Board should leave the language as-is for the time being. Dr. Raggio expressed agreement to leave the current language for the time being.

There were no comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations on the discussion regarding additional course subjects that should be identified as outside the scope.

3. Discussion Regarding Continuing Education Requirements for Hearing Aid Dispensers and Dispensing Audiologists (As Stated in Title 16, CCR sections 1399.140)

Mr. Borges opened the discussion on section 1399.140(a)(1) regarding CE hours for related or in-direct client care courses. Ms. Chang inquired if the Committee just made this four hours. Mr. Borges replied to confirm and stated it was discussed earlier to add an hour to make it four hours. Ms. Chang inquired if it should be lowered to 50 percent. Mr. Borges replied that it would mean changing the hours from three to six and it was his understanding that the Committee agreed to four hours as a compromise. Dr. Raggio

expressed agreement to the four hours.

Dr. Raggio inquired about the second statement of the memo discussion question regarding experienced dispensers and new dispensers. Ms. Burns replied that the statement is a reason for changing the hours. Dr. Raggio commented on and expressed concerns about determining who are experienced or new dispensers. Mr. Borges commented on the additional hour for everyone and not based on experience. Dr. Raggio expressed agreement with Mr. Borges remarks and noted the issue of experience did come in the previous discussion. Mr. Borges expressed agreement and stated it would be hard for Board staff to manage. Karen Chang expressed agreement with the remarks provided.

There were no comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations on the discussion regarding CE hours for related or in-direct client care courses.

Mr. Borges opened the discussion on CE hours for legal and ethics courses. Mr. Borges stated that this was discussed earlier which resulted to adding an additional hour. Dr. Raggio and Ms. Chang expressed their agreement on the additional hour.

There were no comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations on the discussion regarding CE hours for legal and ethics.

Mr. Borges opened the discussion on the possibility of opening up or including more recorded CE courses. Mr. Borges commented on the limited opportunities of "live" courses and inquired if the number of "live" courses should be reduced. Dr. Raggio inquired if self-study hours is being increased to six hours. Mr. Borges replied that it is already six hours. Dr. Raggio further inquired if AudiologyOnline has "live" courses. Mr. Borges replied that they do but at the moment they are very limited. Mr. Borges commented on the changes to course content and the possibility of the changes increasing the availability of courses to the dispensing community. Dr. Raggio inquired how courses would look for programming and post-fitting adjustment of a specific hearing aid. Mr. Borges stated there have been and deferred to Dr. April Dolan, CE Administrator with AudiologyOnline.

Dr. Dolan inquired if self-study is synchronous or asynchronous. Dr. Raggio replied that it is asynchronous self-study courses. Dr. Dolan commented on synchronous product courses and manufacturer-specific courses provided by AudiologyOnline. Dr. Raggio commented on Dr. Dolan's remarks about manufacturer-specific courses. Dr. Dolan commented on the ASHA's guidelines for courses offered by ASHA-approved providers. Mr. Borges commented on past and current manufacturer-specific courses. Dr. Raggio commented on the marketing of products at manufacturer-specific courses and shared her experience attending manufacturer-sponsored courses. Dr. Raggio inquired about the type of courses being offered by manufacturers. Dr. Dolan replied that there are courses on troubleshooting, new products, and across-the-board about how to fit and troubleshoot for a specific product. Dr. Raggio commented on the Board's regulations and the use of other professional organizations as a model. Mr. Borges expressed agreement and

inquired about expanding the number of self-study hours.

Paul Sanchez commented on the history of increasing the number of self-study hours allowed for hearing aid dispensers. Dr. Marcia Raggio inquired about the number of hours and when the changes were made. Mr. Sanchez replied that the number of self-study hours allowed is six and that changes were made three or four years ago. Mr. Sanchez stated that no issues have been raised on the number of hours and suggested to find out if there are limitations of "live" courses. Karen Chang inquired of Mr. Borges about how he manages the "live" and self-study course requirements. Mr. Borges replied with information about his experience and commented on dispensers expressing difficulty in completing their hours due to the limited number of courses available from one month to another. Ms. Chang inquired of Mr. Borges about his experience at "live" courses and how to get more hearing aid dispensers courses. Mr. Borges replied with information on his experience attending "live" courses and commented on the qualifications of recorded content for CE hours and the self-study hours.

Dr. Raggio inquired about dispensers completing all their hours in one sitting if the self-study hours were increased. Mr. Borges replied that the same could be said for six hours and he doesn't think this issue can be fully regulated. Dr. Raggio commented on limiting the number of hours for consumer protection and shared her experience attending "live" conferences. Mr. Borges shared his experience attending online courses and "live" events.

Mr. Borges inquired about the number of self-study hour that is in the best interest to the consumers. Dr. Raggio commented on six hours being acceptable. Ms. Chang commented on the level of participation at events being dependent on the person. Ms. Chang further commented on "live" courses for consumer protection and barriers for hearing aid dispensers to attend "live" courses. Paul Sanchez stated that Board staff has seen more interactive online courses and noted that physical presence isn't a requirement for interactive courses. Ms. Burns commented on the possibility of more "live" courses being available if changes are made to the regulations on course content for direct client care.

Dr. April Dolan, CE Administrator with AudiologyOnline, extended her gratitude to the Board and noted that Joanne Slater would be able to answer questions to help clarify any other questions the Board may have.

Mr. Borges opened the discussion on the definition of self-study and commented on the definition for synchronous instruction. Dr. Raggio and Ms. Chang agreed with Mr. Borges remarks. Dr. Raggio inquired if section 1399.140(a)(2)(B) is adequate. Ms. Chang replied that it is adequate. Ms. Burns clarified that Board staff is asking if the Committee wanted to move to language that includes asynchronous and synchronous. Dr. Raggio and Mr. Borges stated that they would like to receive input from Legal on the topic.

Ms. Chang inquired if Board staff can provide a list of CE requirements in other states. Mr. Borges replied that a lot of states follow International Hearing Society for testing, and

it could be the same for continuing education, but a comparison would be beneficial for future discussion. Mr. Sanchez commented on Board staff being able to provide a list of states and suggested to look at states with similar licensing requirements as California.

The meeting adjourned at 3:38 p.m.

# **Board Meeting**

1. Call to Order / Roll Call / Establishment of Quorum

Dr. Marcia Raggio, Board Chair, called the Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensers Board (Board) meeting to order at 9 a.m. Dr. Raggio called roll; six members of the Board were present and thus a quorum was established.

#### **Board Members Present**

Marcia Raggio, AuD, Board Chair Holly Kaiser, SLP, Vice Board Chair Tod Borges, HAD, Board Member Karen Chang, Public Board Member Gilda Dominguez, SLP, Board Member Debbie Snow, Public Board Member

# **Staff Present**

Paul Sanchez, Executive Officer
Cherise Burns, Assistant Executive Officer
Lisa Snelling, Licensing Coordinator
Tenisha Ashford, Enforcement Coordinator
Heather Olivares, Legislation/Regulation Analyst
Maria Liranzo, Legislation/Regulation/Budget Analyst
Michael Kanotz, DCA Legal Counsel
Karen Halbo, DCA Regulations Counsel
Brianna Miller, DCA Executive Office
Dani Rogers, DCA Regulation Counsel
Trisha St. Clair, DCA Web Cast
Bryce Penney, DCA Web Cast
Sarah Irani, DCA Web Cast

#### **Guests Present**

Beverley Dunbar Christy Kirsch, AuD Joanne Slater, AuD Jody Winzelberg, AuD Linda Oliver

# 2. Public Comment for Items not on the Agenda

Cherise Burns read a written comment from the public regarding concerns with the licensing fee increases for recent graduates.

3. Review and Possible Approval of the August 12-13, 2021, Board Teleconference Meeting Minutes

Dr. Raggio tabled the approval of the August 12-13, 2021 Board Teleconference Meeting Minutes for further revisions. Dr. Raggio and Gilda Dominguez provided technical changes to Board staff. Cherise Burns informed Board Members that additional changes can be submitted to Board staff before the final approval of the meeting minutes.

There were no comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations on this agenda item.

# 4. Board Chair's Report

Dr. Raggio discussed the 2021 Board and Committee Meeting Calendar. Ms. Burns stated the dates for next year will be proposed at the November meeting.

Holly Kaiser reported on the discussions and possible actions from the Speech-Language Pathology Practice Committee meeting held on October 7, 2021.

Tod Borges reported on the discussions from the Hearing Aid Practice Committee meeting held on October 7, 2021.

Dr. Raggio informed Board members of the committee membership roster included in the report.

There were no comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations on this agenda item.

#### 5. Executive Officer's Report

#### a. Administration Update

Paul Sanchez provided updates on the Business Modernization Project, fee increases, state workers COVID vaccine and testing requirement, and Board staff vacancy.

Dr. Raggio inquired about Board staffing vacancy. Mr. Sanchez replied that there are currently no staffing vacancies. Ms. Burns clarified that the Board will have one position to backfill the staff who will be working on the Business Modernization Project. Mr. Sanchez commented on the Business Modernization Project and Board staff vacancies.

There were no comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations on this

agenda item.

# b. Budget Report

Mr. Sanchez provided an overview of the budget report provided by the DCA's Budget Office. Mr. Sanchez stated the report reflects the first month of the budget year and will be adjusted in the coming months to accurately reflect what the Board is actually going to spend, especially with the Business Modernization Project costs that are not fully reflected in the report.

There was no Board discussion or comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations on this agenda item.

# c. Regulations Report

Paul Sanchez highlighted the regulations report.

There was no Board discussion or comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations on this agenda item.

# d. Licensing Report

Mr. Sanchez provided an overview of the licensing report. Mr. Sanchez reported the Board is in its peak season in processing licensing and the current cycle time is nine to ten weeks.

There was no Board discussion or comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations on this agenda item.

#### e. Practical Examination Report

Mr. Sanchez provided an overview of the practical exam report. Mr. Sanchez reported the Board conducted two practical exams in July and noted their statistics are in the report.

There was no Board discussion or comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations on this agenda item.

# f. Enforcement Report

Mr. Sanchez provided an overview of the enforcement report. Mr. Sanchez reported the number of complaints has decreased since the pandemic and the Board is still seeing low numbers of complaints and convictions received. Mr. Sanchez stated that Board staff will continue to monitor these numbers.

There was no Board discussion or comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations on this agenda item.

6. DCA Update – DCA Board and Bureau Relations

Brianna Miller with the DCA Executive Office provided a Department update including Board vacancies, new and current statewide response to the COVID-19 pandemic and required board member training.

Dr. Raggio and Karen Chang inquired on the required board member training. Brianna Miller replied with information on upcoming training dates, how to sign up, and topics covered. Dr. Raggio stated that Cherise Burns can help any Board members with signing up for these events.

There were no comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations on this agenda item.

Update on Speech and Hearing Related DCA Waivers related to the COVID-19 State of Emergency

Ms. Burns provided an update on the waivers approved by DCA. Ms. Burns reported the following are set to expire on October 31, 2021:

- modification of the direct monitoring requirements for Required Professional Experience (RPE) licenses and the direct supervision requirements for Speech-Language Pathology Assistant (SLPA) licenses,
- modification of limitations and requirements for extension of RPE licenses,
- modification of the limitations on renewing of Hearing Aid Dispenser (HAD) temporary licenses and HAD trainee licenses,

Ms. Burns further reported that the modification of continuing education requirements for all licensees whose license expires up through October 31, 2021 ends on October 31, 2021 and the deadline to complete the CE requirement, including the "live" course requirement, was extended to March 28, 2022. Ms. Burns clarified that the extension does not apply to license renewals for the month of November, December, January, and February. Ms. Burns stated that Board staff will notify stakeholder with this information and with information on the Governor's telehealth services extension. Ms. Burns clarified that while tele supervision may not be allowed, it does not mean telehealth services are not allowed. Ms. Burns commented on the importance of the Governor's Executive orders to obtain the DCA waivers.

Dr. Raggio commented on the professional community's gratitude for the waivers and the efforts made by the Board to get waivers approved.

There were no comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations on this agenda item.

#### 8. Discussion and Possible Action on the Board's 2022 Sunset Review

Paul Sanchez opened the discussion on the Board's 2022 Sunset Review. Mr. Sanchez provided a brief background of the process and report.

a. Discussion and Possible Action on the Following Items Regarding the Board's 2016 Sunset Review:

Ms. Burns explained that Section 11 is where the Board takes a look at their responses to issues raised during the last Sunset Review and determine whether or not actions are still needed. The following are those issues:

i. Status of Long-Term Fund Condition

Ms. Burns read the question and provided a summary of the staff recommendation, board response, and update regarding the status of the long-term fund condition. Ms. Burns provided a brief background on the issue. Ms. Burns stated that the staff recommendation and Board response provided at the last Sunset Review does not change and the Board only provides an update on the issue for this report.

Dr. Raggio inquired about the last fee increase. Paul Sanchez replied that the last major fee increase was in 2001/2002 and stated that it is not typical for healing arts boards to go 20 years without fee increases. Ms. Burns and Mr. Sanchez commented on the licensing population growth and Board staffing level to meet performance goals.

Dr. Raggio expressed the Board's appreciated for all the work the Board does.

There were no comments on this item from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

ii. Board Staffing Levels to Meet Performance Goals

Ms. Burns read the question and provided a summary of the staff recommendation, board response, and update regarding Board staffing levels to meet performance goals. Ms. Burns provided a brief background on the workload demands.

Dr. Raggio inquired on updating the update based on the information reported earlier. Ms. Burns replied that it's not necessary because organizational charts will be submitted with the report.

Mr. Sanchez inquired about the number of positions. Ms. Burns replied that she will have to verify if its funded and authorized positions or just authorized positions.

There were no comments on this item from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

# iii. Training and Examination for Hearing Aid Dispensers

Ms. Burns read the question and provided a summary of the staff recommendation, board response, and update regarding training and examination for Hearing Aid Dispensers.

There was no Board discussion on this item or comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

iv. English Language Literacy Testing for Foreign Trained Speech-Language Pathologists

Ms. Burns read the question and provided a summary of the staff recommendation, board response, and update regarding English language literacy testing for foreign trained Speech-Language Pathologists.

There was no Board discussion on this item or comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

v. Elimination of the Speech-Language Pathology Aide Designation

Ms. Burns read the question and provided a summary of the staff recommendation, board response, and update regarding the elimination of the Speech-Language Pathology (SLP) Aide designation.

Holly Kaiser inquired about the number of SLP Aides currently registered. Ms. Burns replied that the Board has the number of SLP Aides registered in the last five years but there is no way to distinguish them once they are a part of the licensing population.

Beverley Dunbar, SLPA Program Coordinator at Pasanda College, expressed concerns that increasing the status of SLP Aides is a decrease in the job status protection for SLPAs. Mr. Sanchez and Ms. Burns replied that the Board's intent is not to increase the status of SLP Aides or expand the scope of what they can do. Ms. Kaiser provided further clarification on the Board's intention, which is to create renewal requirements for the purpose of consumer protection. Beverley Dunbar expressed further concerns that this may be an increase to SLP Aides' status due to a lack of clarity between SLP Aides and SLPAs.

Dr. Raggio asked for final comments on the concerns raised on SLP Aides. Mr. Sanchez provided a brief background on the issue from the prior Sunset and emphasized the Board's intentions is to create a structure to keep SLP Aides accountable and make the designation clearer. Ms. Burns commented on consumer protection materials that can be provided to differentiate the license types and where to complain if there are concerns.

vi. Addressing the Workforce Shortage in Audiology

Ms. Burns read the question and provided a summary of the staff recommendation, board

response, and update regarding the workforce shortage in Audiology.

There was no Board discussion on this item.

Dr. Jody Winzelberg, Clinical Training Coordinator with the Department of Audiology at San Jose State University, stated that, in speaking with other program directors, there is a struggle to place California students so to accept other out of state educated audiology students seeking Required Professional Experience (RPE) opportunities would put a strain on California programs. Dr. Raggio inquired about students completing their RPE out of state. Dr. Winzelberg replied that the state is not part of the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA); therefore, California programs are restricted in placing students in different state for RPE experience. Dr. Winzelberg suggested joining the NC-SARA consortium to alleviate the problem. Dr. Raggio encouraged her, or a representative, to present this to the Board for further discussion.

# vii. Addressing the Workforce Shortage in Speech-Language Pathology

Ms. Burns read the question and provided a summary of the staff recommendation, board response, and update regarding the workforce shortage in Speech-Language Pathology.

Dr. Raggio shared that three CSU programs received a CSU chancellor grant to increase their graduate enrollment for the length of the grant period. Ms. Burns stated that this information can be included in the report.

There were no comments on this item from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

#### viii. Status of BreEZe Implementation

Ms. Burns read the question and provided a summary of the staff recommendation, board response, and update regarding the status of BreEZe implementation.

There was no Board discussion on this item or comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

#### ix. Addressing Consumer Protection Issues with Locked Hearing Aids

Ms. Burns read the question and provided a summary of the staff recommendation, board response, and update regarding consumer protection issues with locked hearing aids. Ms. Burns reported that the Board-sponsored bill was signed by the Governor and the information in the report will be updated.

Dr. Raggio inquired if it is necessary to add in the report that the consumers have to sign off that they were informed of locked hearing aids. Ms. Burns replied that this is information that can be added to the report.

There were no comments on this item from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

# x. Technical Statutory Clean-up Issues

Ms. Burns read the question and provided a summary of the staff recommendation, board response, and update on technical statutory clean-up issues.

Ms. Burns read the question and provided a summary of the staff recommendation, board response, and update on the continuation of the licensing and regulation of speech-language pathologists, audiologists, and hearing aid dispensers by the current Board membership.

Dr. Raggio inquired about a section in the report for enforcement as a reason why this Board is needed. Ms. Burns replied that a reference doesn't need to be here but if additional clarification is needed, a quick snippet can be provided. Mr. Sanchez commented on the overarching theme being consumer protection, which will appear throughout the report.

There were no comments on these items from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

b. Discussion and Possible Action on the Following Items Regarding the Board's 2022 Sunset Review:

Ms. Burns explained that the Board has an opportunity to inform the Legislature of solutions to issues that the Board may want legislative actions. The following are those new issues:

i. Creating Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Aide Renewal and Continuing Professional Development Requirements

Ms. Burns provided a summary of the background on the Aide designation, effects on consumers, Board recommendation, and proposed statutory text to create SLP Aide and Audiology Aide Renewal and Continuing Professional Development Requirements

Gilda Dominguez extended her compliments to the recommendation for its effort to bring more consistency and address consumer protection concerns.

Beverley Dunbar, SLPA Program Coordinator at Pasanda College, inquired about and expressed concerns on the Aides and Assistants designation and inquired about continuing education for Aides. Mr. Sanchez replied that the concerns expressed will be considered in Board staff analysis. Holly Kaiser acknowledged the concerns expressed and commented on the Board's intention to address those issues. Ms. Dominguez commented on the duty of a supervisor and tasks Aides perform. Beverley Dunbar extended her gratitude for the comments made and suggested whether there could be more clarity on the guidelines for Aides within the regulations.

Dr. Christy Kirsch, Audiology Clinic Director at San Diego State University, commented on the need for clearer guidelines on Audiology Aides. Dr. Raggio replied that the Board is aware of the issue and trying to determine what Aides can and cannot do.

Dr. Joanne Slater, CEU Administration Director with AudiologyOnline, commented on the availability of continuing education courses to licensees and consumers. Beverley Dunbar clarified that she didn't suggest people are not allowed to attend unless they held a certain type of license but was concerned about who the workshops are directed for.

ii. Audiology Licensing Requirements – Required Clinical and Professional Experience

Ms. Burns provided a summary of the background on the Audiology licensing requirements, effects on consumers, Board actions, Board recommendations, and proposed statutory text to modify the RPE requirements.

Dr. Raggio inquired about a meeting with Californian programs regarding the proposed RPE regulations. Ms. Burns replied that it will happen once a survey to gather data is sent prior to a meeting.

Dr. Christy Kirsch, Audiology Clinic Director at San Diego State University, suggested the State's RPE hours follow the ASHA guidelines. Dr. Raggio replied that information on RPE hours will be gathered from the programs throughout the State and the Board will be addressing this issue soon.

iii. Hearing Aid Dispensers Committee Membership

Ms. Burns provided a summary of the background on the issue with the Hearing Aid Dispensers (HAD) Committee quorum, effects on consumers, Board actions, Board recommendations, and proposed statutory text to change HAD Committee membership.

Dr. Raggio inquired on the audiologist's membership. Ms. Burns replied that it would be up to the Board Chair to determine which audiologist to appoint to the committee.

Dr. Raggio inquired about required Board actions on the Sunset Review Report. Ms. Burns replied that the Board will approve it in its entirety once the report is complete, and if there are any issues, they can be discussed today or at the next meeting in November. Mr. Sanchez commented on Board staff looking for direction from the Board to make sure the Board is in agreement with the direction of the report.

Ms. Chang expressed agreement with the recommended changes from six to four and commented on the difficulty to maintain a quorum. Tod Borges, Gilda Dominguez, and Debbie Snow expressed agreement with the recommended changes.

There were no comments on this item from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

iv. Persons Deemed to Meet Requirements – Updating Audiology Requirements to Allow Qualifications Deemed Equivalent to Include Certificate of Clinical Competence in Audiology and American Board of Audiology Certificate

Ms. Burns provided a summary of the background on outdated Audiology reference on persons deemed to meet requirements, effects on consumers, Board actions, Board recommendations, and proposed statutory text to allow for equivalent to include Certificate of Clinical Competence in Audiology and American Board of Audiology Certificate.

There was no Board discussion on this item or comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

v. Elimination of the Nonoperative Grandfather Clause for Speech-Language Pathology Aides that Allowed Aide Experience to Count Towards Speech-Language Pathology Assistant Licensure That Ended on June 1, 2003 in Business and Professions Code Section 2532.7

Ms. Burns provided a summary of the background on the nonoperative grandfather clause for Speech-Language Pathology, effects on consumers, Board actions, Board recommendations, and proposed statutory text to eliminate the nonoperative clause.

There was no Board discussion on this item or comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

vi. Technical Statutory Clean-up Issues

Ms. Burns provided a summary of the background on technical statutory clean-up issues, effects on consumers, Board actions, Board recommendations, and proposed statutory text.

There was no Board discussion on this item or comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

vii. Including Violations of Business and Professions Code Section 650 in the Board's Definition of Unprofessional Conduct for Enforcement Purposes

Ms. Burns provided a summary of the background on the enforcement of unprofessional conduct, effects on consumers, Board actions, Board recommendations, and proposed statutory text to aid the Board to enforce these types of violations and enhance consumer protection.

Dr. Raggio inquired of the Board if there are any new issues that should be identified in the report. Ms. Burns commented on a discussion that was tabled regarding statutory authority to waive requirements and noted this will be a DCA-wide provision.

Dr. Raggio inquired for any further Board discussion.

Karen Chang inquired about the outcome of previous discussions on telehealth and hearing aids purchased online. Ms. Burns replied that regulations allow telehealth. Dr. Raggio commented on the Board needing to determine the tele supervision of telehealth. Ms. Burns commented on the regulatory proposal for RPE tele supervision.

Dr. Raggio inquired about the SLPA supervision requirement for onsite and telehealth. Ms. Burns deferred to Heather Olivares. Ms. Olivares provided information on the proposed regulation for SLPAs direct and in-direct tele supervision.

Dr. Raggio commented on the Attorney General's consumer alert for online or over the counter (OTC) hearing aids and possible regulations on OTC hearing aids from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Mr. Sanchez commented on statutes restricting sales by catalog or direct mail and suggested the Board may consider reviewing BPC 2538.23, and similar law for dispensing audiology, if the Board wants to attempt to expand it to online sales. Ms. Chang stated that the Board should consider including online sales in statutes. Dr. Raggio inquired about waivers to make that designation. Mr. Sanchez replied that no waiver is needed for devices classified as hearing aids by the FDA. Dr. Raggio inquired of the DCA Legal Office regarding wavier for online sales to be included. Michael Kanotz with the DCA Legal Office stated that he will follow up with Board staff with more information on the issue.

There were no comments on this item from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

9. Regulatory Report: Update, Review, and Possible Action on Board Regulation Packages

Holly Kaiser commented on the format of the report and expressed her appreciation for the visual chart to track the process.

a. Update and Discussion of Implementation of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Fees (As Stated in 16 CCR sections 1399.157, 1399.170.13, and 1399.170.14)

Heather Olivares provided an update on the regulatory proposal for the Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology fees. Ms. Olivares reported that the fees increase will go into effect on November 1, 2021.

There was no Board discussion on this item or comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

 Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Speech-Language Pathology Assistants Requirements (As Stated in Title 16, CCR section 1399.170 through 1399.170.20.1) Ms. Olivares provided an update on the regulatory proposal for the Speech-Language Pathology Assistants requirements. Ms. Olivares reported that the Board approved the regulatory language on August 13, 2021 and Board staff is working on the regulatory documents. Ms. Olivares stated that, once the documents are completed, they will be submitted to the DCA Legal Office for the pre-review process.

There was no Board discussion on this item or comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

c. Discussion and Possible Action to Adopt Uniform Standards Related to Substance-Abusing Licensees as Title 16, CCR section 1399.131.1 and 1399.155.1

Ms. Olivares provided an update on the regulatory proposal for the Uniform Standards Related to Substance-Abusing Licensees. Ms. Olivares reported that the Board approved the regulatory language on August 13, 2021 and Board staff is working on the regulatory documents. Ms. Olivares stated that, once the documents are completed, they will be submitted to the DCA Legal Office for the pre-review process.

There was no Board discussion on this item or comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

d. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Required Professional Experience (RPE) Direct Supervision Requirements and Remote or Tele Supervision (As Stated in Title 16, California Code of Regulations (CCR), sections 1399.153 and 1399.153.3)

Ms. Olivares provided an update on the regulatory proposal for RPE direct supervision requirements and remote or tele supervision. Ms. Olivares reported that Board staff submitted the required regulatory documents to DCA to start the initial review process on August 24, 2021 and the Legal Counsel identified changes for review and discussion.

Ms. Olivares provided a summary of the changes since it was last approved on May 14, 2021.

There was no Board discussion on this item or comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

There was no Board discussion on the motion or comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

Karen Chang made a motion to approve the proposed regulatory text for Section(s) 1399.153 and 1399.153.3, direct Board 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 public

hearing if requested. If no adverse comments are received during the 45-day public 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 Section(s) 1399.153 and 1399.153.3 as noticed.

Gilda Dominguez seconded the motion.

**The motion carried 6-0.** (Ayes: Raggio, Kaiser, Borges, Chang, Dominguez, Snow)

e. Discussion and Possible Action to Adopt Regulations Regarding Dispensing Audiologist Examination Requirement (As Stated in Title 16, CCR section 1399.152.4)

Ms. Olivares provided an update on adopting regulations regarding Dispensing Audiologist examination requirement. Ms. Olivares reported that the regulatory package is still being developed and Board staff recently received feedback from DCA's Legal Counsel to further develop this language.

Dr. Raggio inquired about the meeting material for this item. Ms. Olivares replied that this item was held for further development and will be presented at a future meeting.

There were no comments on this item from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

f. Discussion and Possible Action to Amend Regulations Regarding Board Location and Processing Times (As Stated in Title 16, CCR section 1399.101, 1399.113, 1399.150.1, 1399.151.1 and 1399.160.6

Ms. Olivares provided an update on amending regulations regarding Board location and processing time. Ms. Olivares reported that the regulatory package is still being developed and Board staff have proposed non-substantive changes for review and approval by the Board.

Ms. Olivares provided a brief background on the Section 100 regulation process that this regulatory package will go through. Ms. Olivares noted the changes include updating the Board's address and removing regulations on the processing times and any references to statues that were repealed.

Tod Borges inquired on the removal of the processing times. Ms. Olivares and Ms. Burns replied with information on the processing time in regulations compared to actual processing time that Board staff can perform. Ms. Olivares and Ms. Burns stated that the Board streamlined the process to shorten the processing timeframes in comparison to what is currently in regulations. Ms. Burns noted the Board reports annually to DCA and will soon report quarterly on the processing times.

There were no comments on this item from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

There was no Board discussion on the motion or comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations

Holly Kaiser move to approve the regulatory language, move to start the rulemaking process for Section 100 changes without regulatory effect, and delegate authority to the Executive Officer to make any technical and non-substantive changes that may be required to complete the rulemaking file.

Debbie Snow seconded the motion.

**The motion carried 6-0.** (Ayes: Raggio, Kaiser, Borges, Chang, Dominguez, Snow)

10. Legislative Report: Update, Review, and Possible Action on Proposed Legislation

a. Legislative Calendar and Deadlines

Ms. Olivares provided an update on the legislative session and upcoming legislative deadlines.

Dr. Raggio inquired about the deadline to introduce legislation next year. Ms. Olivares replied that the legislative calendar is not available yet and provided an approximate timeline of next year's deadlines.

There were no comments on this item from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

- b. Board-Sponsored Legislation
  - i. AB 435 (Mullin) Hearing aids: locked programming software: notice

Ms. Olivares reported this bill was signed by the Governor and went through the process fairly quickly without any opposition. Ms. Olivares provided a summary of the bill.

There was no Board discussion on this item or comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

c. Bills with Active Positions Taken by the Board

Ms. Olivares provided an overview on the status of bill with active positions taken by the Board and recommended no changes to the Board's position or adopt any new position.

Dr. Raggio inquired about the meaning of a bill not heard in a committee. Ms. Olivares provided a variety of reasons that prevents a bill from being heard in a committee and what may happen to it in the second year.

i. AB 29 (Cooper) State bodies: meetings

Ms. Olivares reported the Board has an approved Oppose position on this bill and it is a two-year bill as it was held under submission by the Assembly Appropriations Committee. Ms. Olivares provided a summary of the bill.

There was no Board discussion on this item or comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

ii. AB 107 (Salas) Licensure: veterans and military spouses

Ms. Olivares reported the Board has an approved Oppose Unless Amended position on this bill and it is on the Governor's desk waiting for him to sign or veto it. Ms. Olivares further reported the bill was amended to address the Board's concern and provided a summary of the bill.

There was no Board discussion on this item or comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

iii. AB 225 (Gray) Department of Consumer Affairs: boards: veterans: military spouses: licenses

Heather Olivares reported the Board has an approved Oppose Unless Amended position on this bill and it is a two-year bill because it was not heard in the Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee. Ms. Olivares further reported this bill is similar to AB 107 and may not move forward in its current form.

There was no Board discussion on this item or comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

iv. AB 555 (Lackey) Special education: assistive technology devices

Ms. Olivares reported the Board has an approved Oppose Unless Amended position on this bill and it is a two-year bill because it was not heard in the Assembly Education Committee. Ms. Olivares provided a summary of the bill and commented on monitoring the bill if it moves forward in the process.

There was no Board discussion on this item or comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

v. AB 885 (Quirk) Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act: teleconferencing

Ms. Olivares reported the Board has an approved Support position on this bill and it is a two-year bill because it was not heard in the Assembly Governmental Organization Committee. Ms. Olivares provided a summary of the bill.

Holly Kaiser inquired about visual participation. Ms. Olivares replied to confirm that the Board will have to display visual participation of its meetings if this bill passes.

There were no comments on this item from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

vi. AB 1026 (Smith) Business licenses: veterans

Ms. Olivares reported the Board has an approved Support position on this bill and it is a two-year bill as it was held under submission by the Assembly Appropriations Committee. Ms. Olivares provided a summary of the bill.

There was no Board discussion on this item or comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

vii. AB 1361 (Rubio) Childcare and developmental services: preschool: expulsion and suspension: mental health services: reimbursement rates

Heather Olivares reported the Board has an approved Oppose Unless Amended position on this bill and it is a two-year bill as it was held under submission by the Assembly Appropriations Committee. Ms. Olivares provided a summary of the bill and commented on monitoring the bill if it moves forward in the process.

There was no Board discussion on this item or comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

viii. SB 772 (Ochoa Bogh) Professions and vocations: citations: minor violations

Ms. Olivares reported the Board has an approved Oppose position on this bill and it is a two-year bill because it was not heard in the Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee. Ms. Olivares provided a summary of the bill.

There was no Board discussion on this item or comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

d. Bills with Recommended Watch Status

Ms. Olivares provided a summary on the following bills with recommended watch status that are signed, likely to be signed, or at the Governor's desk:

- AB 361 (Rivas) Open meetings: state and local agencies: teleconferences
- AB 457 (Santiago) Protection of Patient Choice in Telehealth Provider Act
- AB 468 (Friedman) Emotional Support Dogs
- AB 486 (Committee on Education) Elementary and secondary education: omnibus bill
- AB 1221 (Flora) Consumer Warranties: Service Contracts: Cancellation: Disclosures
- AB 1291 (Frazier) State bodies: open meetings
- SB 607 (Min) Business and Professions

Ms. Olivares noted the following bills with recommended watch status that are two-year bill:

- AB 646 (Low) Department of Consumer Affairs: boards: expunged convictions
- AB 1236 (Ting) Healing arts: licensees: data collection
- AB 1308 (Ting) Arrest and Conviction Record Relief
- SB 731 (Durazo) Criminal records: relief

There was no Board discussion on this item or comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

- 11. Legislative Items for Future Meeting
- Dr. Marcia Raggio solicited legislative items for future meeting.

There was no Board discussion on this item or comments from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

- 12. Discussion and Possible Action on the Executive Officer Salary or Executive Officer Level Increase
- Dr. Raggio provided an update on the Executive Officer (EO) appraisal and inquired for further discussion on this item.
- Ms. Chang inquired about the difference between the EO salary and level increase. Dr. Raggio replied with a brief explanation on the difference between ranges and salary. Mr. Sanchez provided examples of different factors that determine an EO's level.
- Ms. Chang inquired about the requested Board action. Dr. Raggio replied that the Board must entertain a motion to approve the request for a salary increase. Ms. Burns provided a brief explanation comparing the EO salary and level increase with rank-and-file employees. Dr. Raggio provided a brief history of Mr. Sanchez's employment and salary increase history.
- Mr. Borges inquired about the action the Board needs to take. Dr. Raggio replied to confirm that the Board will take action to increase the salary and not the level.
- Ms. Chang inquired about the details of the action on the salary increase. Dr. Raggio deferred to the DCA's Legal Counsel, Michael Kanotz. Mr. Kanotz replied to confirm that the motion the Board can entertain is to support a salary increase and not determine or specify the amount.
- Dr. Raggio inquired about a motion to increase the level. Mr. Kanotz replied that the Board can recommend a level increase as well and noted the Board doesn't have the authority to do either on its own. Dr. Raggio commented on making the recommendation for both a salary and level increase.

There were no comments for this item from the public, outside agencies, or associations.

There was no additional Board discussion on the motion or comments from public, outside agencies, or associations.

Debbie Snow made a motion to recommend an increase of the salary and the level of the Executive Officer.

Holly Kaiser seconded the motion.

**The motion carried 6-0.** (Ayes: Raggio, Kaiser, Borges, Chang, Dominguez, Snow)

13. Future Agenda Items

Dr. Marcia Raggio solicited future agenda items. Ms. Chang suggested a discussion on the online sales of hearing aids.

Linda Oliver, a member from the public, suggested a discussion on Audiology Aides to visually observe ears prior to screening and conducting video otoscopy or create an Audiology Assistants that can perform the task.

14. The Board will Meet in Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 11126(c)(3), the Board will Meet in Closed Session to Discuss Disciplinary Matters Including Proposed Decisions, Stipulated Decisions, Defaults, Petitions for Reductions in Penalty, Petitions for Reconsideration, and Remands

The Board did not meet in a closed session.

15. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:43 p.m.