

## Senate Bill No. 543

### CHAPTER 448

An act to amend Sections 144, 205, 210, 5000, 5015.6, 5076, 5076.1, 5510, 5517, 5552.5, 5620, 5621, 5622, 6510, 6710, 6714, 6763.1, 7000.5, 7011, 7200, 7215.6, 7885, 7886, 7887, 8710, 18602, 18613, and 18618 of, to add Sections 5063.10 and 6582.2 to, and to add and repeal Section 2674 of, the Business and Professions Code, relating to business and professions, and making an appropriation therefor.

[Approved by Governor October 3, 2011. Filed with  
Secretary of State October 3, 2011.]

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 543, Steinberg. Business and professions: regulatory boards.

(1) Existing law authorizes a board to suspend or revoke a license on various grounds, including, but not limited to, conviction of a crime, if the crime is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of the business or profession for which the license was issued. Existing law requires applicants to certain boards to provide a full set of fingerprints for the purpose of conducting criminal history record checks.

This bill would make the fingerprinting requirement applicable to the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists. The bill would also make technical, nonsubstantive changes to those provisions to correct references to the names of various boards and would correct references to the name of a specified fund.

(2) Existing law authorizes the Department of Consumer Affairs to enter into a contract with a vendor for the licensing and enforcement BreEZe system no sooner than 30 days after written notification to certain committees of the Legislature. Existing law requires the amount of contract funds for the system to be consistent with costs approved by the office of the State Chief Information Officer, based on information provided by the department in a specified manner. Existing law provides that this cost provision is applicable to all Budget Act items for the department that have an appropriation for the BreEZe system.

This bill would authorize the Department of Finance to augment the budgets of those boards, bureaus, commissions, committees, programs, and divisions of the Department of Consumer Affairs for expenditure of non-General Fund moneys to pay BreEZe project costs, as specified, thereby making an appropriation.

(3) Existing law, the Physical Therapy Practice Act, creates the Physical Therapy Board of California and makes it responsible for the licensure and regulation of physical therapists. Existing law authorizes the board to discipline licensees, including the suspension and revocation of licenses.

Existing law regulating professional corporations provides that certain healing arts practitioners may be shareholders, officers, directors, or professional employees of a professional corporation, subject to certain limitations. A violation of these provisions by a licensee constitutes unprofessional conduct under the act.

This bill would, until January 1, 2013, prohibit the board from taking disciplinary action against a licensee providing physical therapy services as a professional employee of a medical corporation, podiatric medical corporation, or chiropractic corporation.

(4) Existing law provides for the licensure and regulation of various businesses and professions by boards within the Department of Consumer Affairs, including the California Board of Accountancy, the California Architects Board, the Landscape Architects Technical Committee, the Professional Fiduciaries Bureau, the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists, the Contractors' State License Board, the State Board of Guide Dogs for the Blind, and the State Athletic Commission. Existing law requires or authorizes these boards and the State Athletic Commission, with certain exceptions, to appoint an executive officer and existing law authorizes the Governor to appoint the chief of the Professional Fiduciaries Bureau. Existing law repeals these provisions on January 1, 2012. Under existing law, boards scheduled for repeal are required to be evaluated by the Joint Sunset Review Committee.

This bill would extend the operation of these provisions until January 1, 2016, except the State Board of Guide Dogs for the Blind and the State Athletic Commission, which would be extended until January 1, 2014, and except the Professional Fiduciaries Bureau, which would be extended until January 1, 2015. The bill would instead specify that these boards would be subject to review by the appropriate policy committees of the Legislature.

(5) With respect to accounting firms, existing law, until January 1, 2014, requires a firm, in order to renew its registration, to have a specified peer review report accepted by a California Board of Accountancy-recognized peer review group. Existing law, until January 1, 2014, requires the board to appoint a peer review oversight committee of certified public accountants to provide recommendations to the board relating to the effectiveness of mandatory peer review. Existing law also requires the board, by January 1, 2013, to provide the Legislature and the Governor with a report regarding specified peer review requirements that includes specified information.

This bill would extend the operation of the peer review report requirement and the peer review oversight committee indefinitely. The bill would require the report to the Legislature and the Governor to be submitted by January 1, 2015, and would require the report to include certain additional information and recommendations.

Existing law requires an accountant licensee to report to the board the occurrence of certain events taking place after January 1, 2003, including any restatement of a financial statement.

This bill would exempt any restatement that is included in any report filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission from this requirement.

(6) Existing law authorizes the California Architects Board to, by regulation, implement an intern development program until July 1, 2012.

This bill, by deleting that termination date, would instead authorize the board to, by regulation, implement the intern development program indefinitely.

(7) Existing law prohibits a person from holding himself or herself out as a professional fiduciary without a license issued by the Professional Fiduciaries Bureau. Under existing law, a license may be suspended, revoked, denied, or other disciplinary action may be imposed for various reasons.

This bill would authorize the bureau, instead of issuing an accusation or statement of issues against a licensee or applicant, to enter into a specified settlement with a licensee or applicant.

(8) Existing law authorizes the State Board of Guide Dogs for the Blind to establish an arbitration panel pilot project, until January 1, 2012, for the purpose of resolving disputes between a guide dog user and a licensed guide dog school, as specified.

This bill would instead authorize the arbitration panel pilot project until January 1, 2014.

(9) Existing law requires an applicant to use the title “structural engineer” to have successfully passed both a written examination that incorporates a national examination for structural engineers and a supplemental California specific examination, as specified.

This bill would instead require these applicants to pass only a written examination for structural engineering that is administered by a nationally recognized entity approved by the board.

(10) Existing law establishes the Professional Engineer’s and Land Surveyor’s Fund, requires all money received by the Department of Consumer Affairs from the operation of the Professional Engineer’s Act and the Professional Land Surveyor’s Act to be deposited in the fund, and appropriates the moneys in the fund for the purposes of those acts. Existing law establishes the Geology and Geophysics Fund and requires the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists to provide all money received by the board under the Geologists and Geophysicists Act to the State Treasury for credit to the Geology and Geophysics Fund.

This bill would abolish the Geology and Geophysics Fund, create the Geology and Geophysics Account within the Professional Engineer’s and Land Surveyor’s Fund, and require all moneys received by the board under the Geologists and Geophysicists Act to be deposited in that account. The bill would require all moneys paid into the account pursuant to the Geologists and Geophysicists Act to be appropriated to carry out the provisions of the act, thereby making an appropriation.

(11) Existing law requires an applicant for registration as a geologist to pay an examination fee fixed by the board at an amount equal to the actual cost to the board to administer the examination, not to exceed \$450.

This bill would delete the provisions limiting the examination fee to \$450.

(12) Existing law requires the State Athletic Commission to provide a report to the Governor and the Legislature by July 30, 2010, regarding the condition of the State Athletic Commission Neurological Examination Account and the Boxers' Pension Fund, as specified.

This bill would require the commission to provide the report to the Legislature by July 30, 2012.

(13) This bill would incorporate additional changes in Section 205 of the Business and Professions Code proposed by SB 933, to be operative only if SB 933 and this bill are both chaptered and become effective January 1, 2012, and this bill is chaptered last.

Appropriation: yes.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. Section 144 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

144. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an agency designated in subdivision (b) shall require an applicant to furnish to the agency a full set of fingerprints for purposes of conducting criminal history record checks. Any agency designated in subdivision (b) may obtain and receive, at its discretion, criminal history information from the Department of Justice and the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation.

(b) Subdivision (a) applies to the following:

- (1) California Board of Accountancy.
- (2) State Athletic Commission.
- (3) Board of Behavioral Sciences.
- (4) Court Reporters Board of California.
- (5) State Board of Guide Dogs for the Blind.
- (6) California State Board of Pharmacy.
- (7) Board of Registered Nursing.
- (8) Veterinary Medical Board.
- (9) Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians.
- (10) Respiratory Care Board of California.
- (11) Physical Therapy Board of California.
- (12) Physician Assistant Committee of the Medical Board of California.
- (13) Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispenser Board.
- (14) Medical Board of California.
- (15) State Board of Optometry.
- (16) Acupuncture Board.
- (17) Cemetery and Funeral Bureau.
- (18) Bureau of Security and Investigative Services.

- (19) Division of Investigation.
- (20) Board of Psychology.
- (21) California Board of Occupational Therapy.
- (22) Structural Pest Control Board.
- (23) Contractors' State License Board.
- (24) Naturopathic Medicine Committee.
- (25) Professional Fiduciaries Bureau.
- (26) Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists.

(c) For purposes of paragraph (26) of subdivision (b), the term "applicant" shall be limited to an initial applicant who has never been registered or licensed by the board or to an applicant for a new licensure or registration category.

SEC. 2. Section 205 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

205. (a) There is in the State Treasury the Professions and Vocations Fund. The fund shall consist of the following special funds:

- (1) Accountancy Fund.
- (2) California Architects Board Fund.
- (3) Athletic Commission Fund.
- (4) Barbering and Cosmetology Contingent Fund.
- (5) Cemetery Fund.
- (6) Contractors' License Fund.
- (7) State Dentistry Fund.
- (8) State Funeral Directors and Embalmers Fund.
- (9) Guide Dogs for the Blind Fund.
- (10) Home Furnishings and Thermal Insulation Fund.
- (11) California Architects Board-Landscape Architects Fund.
- (12) Contingent Fund of the Medical Board of California.
- (13) Optometry Fund.
- (14) Pharmacy Board Contingent Fund.
- (15) Physical Therapy Fund.
- (16) Private Investigator Fund.
- (17) Professional Engineer's and Land Surveyor's Fund.
- (18) Consumer Affairs Fund.
- (19) Behavioral Sciences Fund.
- (20) Licensed Midwifery Fund.
- (21) Court Reporters' Fund.
- (22) Veterinary Medical Board Contingent Fund.
- (23) Vocational Nurses Account of the Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians Fund.
- (24) Electronic and Appliance Repair Fund.
- (25) Geology and Geophysics Account of the Professional Engineer's and Land Surveyor's Fund.
- (26) Dispensing Opticians Fund.
- (27) Acupuncture Fund.
- (28) Physician Assistant Fund.
- (29) Board of Podiatric Medicine Fund.

- (30) Psychology Fund.
- (31) Respiratory Care Fund.
- (32) Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Fund.
- (33) Board of Registered Nursing Fund.
- (34) Psychiatric Technician Examiners Account of the Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians Fund.
- (35) Animal Health Technician Examining Committee Fund.
- (36) State Dental Hygiene Fund.
- (37) State Dental Assistant Fund.
- (38) Hearing Aid Dispensers Account of the Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Fund.

(b) For accounting and recordkeeping purposes, the Professions and Vocations Fund shall be deemed to be a single special fund, and each of the several special funds therein shall constitute and be deemed to be a separate account in the Professions and Vocations Fund. Each account or fund shall be available for expenditure only for the purposes as are now or may hereafter be provided by law.

SEC. 2.5. Section 205 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

205. (a) There is in the State Treasury the Professions and Vocations Fund. The fund shall consist of the following special funds:

- (1) Accountancy Fund.
- (2) California Architects Board Fund.
- (3) Athletic Commission Fund.
- (4) Barbering and Cosmetology Contingent Fund.
- (5) Cemetery Fund.
- (6) Contractors' License Fund.
- (7) State Dentistry Fund.
- (8) State Funeral Directors and Embalmers Fund.
- (9) Guide Dogs for the Blind Fund.
- (10) Home Furnishings and Thermal Insulation Fund.
- (11) California Architects Board-Landscape Architects Fund.
- (12) Contingent Fund of the Medical Board of California.
- (13) Optometry Fund.
- (14) Pharmacy Board Contingent Fund.
- (15) Physical Therapy Fund.
- (16) Private Investigator Fund.
- (17) Professional Engineer's and Land Surveyor's Fund.
- (18) Consumer Affairs Fund.
- (19) Behavioral Sciences Fund.
- (20) Licensed Midwifery Fund.
- (21) Court Reporters' Fund.
- (22) Veterinary Medical Board Contingent Fund.
- (23) Vocational Nurses Account of the Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians Fund.
- (24) Electronic and Appliance Repair Fund.

- (25) Geology and Geophysics Account of the Professional Engineer's and Land Surveyor's Fund.
- (26) Dispensing Opticians Fund.
- (27) Acupuncture Fund.
- (28) Physician Assistant Fund.
- (29) Board of Podiatric Medicine Fund.
- (30) Psychology Fund.
- (31) Respiratory Care Fund.
- (32) Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensers Fund.
- (33) Board of Registered Nursing Fund.
- (34) Psychiatric Technician Examiners Account of the Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians Fund.
- (35) Animal Health Technician Examining Committee Fund.
- (36) State Dental Hygiene Fund.
- (37) State Dental Assistant Fund.

(b) For accounting and recordkeeping purposes, the Professions and Vocations Fund shall be deemed to be a single special fund, and each of the several special funds therein shall constitute and be deemed to be a separate account in the Professions and Vocations Fund. Each account or fund shall be available for expenditure only for the purposes as are now or may hereafter be provided by law.

SEC. 3. Section 210 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

210. (a) (1) The department may enter into a contract with a vendor for the BreEZe system, the integrated, enterprisewide enforcement case management and licensing system described in the department's strategic plan, no sooner than 30 days after notification in writing to the chairpersons of the Appropriations Committees of each house of the Legislature and the Chairperson of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee.

(2) The amount of BreEZe system vendor contract funds, authorized pursuant to this section, shall be consistent with the project costs approved by the office of the State Chief Information Officer based on its review and approval of the most recent BreEZe Special Project Report to be submitted by the department prior to contract award at the conclusion of procurement activities.

(3) Paragraph (2) shall apply to all Budget Act items for the department that have an appropriation for the BreEZe system.

(b) (1) If the department enters into a contract with a vendor for the BreEZe system pursuant to subdivision (a), the department shall, by December 31, 2014, submit to the Legislature, the Senate Committee on Business, Professions and Economic Development, the Assembly Committee on Business, Professions and Consumer Protection, and the budget committees of each house, a report analyzing the workload of licensing personnel employed by boards within the department participating in the BreEZe system.

(2) A report to the Legislature pursuant to this subdivision shall be submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government Code.

(3) This subdivision shall become inoperative on December 1, 2018, pursuant to Section 10231.5 of the Government Code.

(c) (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, upon the request of the Department of Consumer Affairs, the Department of Finance may augment the budgets of the boards, bureaus, commissions, committees, programs, and divisions that comprise the Department of Consumer Affairs, as defined in Section 101, for expenditure of non-General Fund moneys to pay BreEZe project costs. The augmentation may be made no sooner than 30 days after notification in writing to the chairpersons of the committees in each house of the Legislature that consider appropriations and the Chairperson of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee, or no sooner than whatever lesser time the chairperson of the joint committee may in each instance determine. The amount of funds augmented pursuant to the authority of this subdivision shall be consistent with project cost increases approved by the Secretary of California Technology based on the secretary's review and approval of the most recent BreEZe Special Project Report to be submitted at the conclusion of procurement activities. This subdivision shall apply to all Budget Act items for the boards, bureaus, commissions, committees, programs, and divisions that comprise the Department of Consumer Affairs, as defined in Section 101, that have an appropriation for the BreEZe system in the Budget Act of 2011.

(2) This subdivision shall become inoperative upon enactment of the Budget Act of 2012.

SEC. 4. Section 2674 is added to the Business and Professions Code, to read:

2674. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no physical therapist shall be subject to discipline by the board for providing physical therapy services as a professional employee of a professional corporation as described in subdivision (a), (b), or (k) of Section 13401.5 of the Corporations Code.

(b) Nothing in this section shall be construed to imply or suggest that a physical therapist providing physical therapy services as a professional employee of a corporation as described in subdivision (a), (b), or (k) of Section 13401.5 of the Corporations Code is in violation of or compliance with the law.

(c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2013, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2013, deletes or extends that date.

SEC. 5. Section 5000 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

5000. There is in the Department of Consumer Affairs the California Board of Accountancy, which consists of 15 members, 7 of whom shall be licensees, and 8 of whom shall be public members who shall not be licentiates of the board or registered by the board. The board has the powers and duties conferred by this chapter.

The Governor shall appoint four of the public members, and the seven licensee members as provided in this section. The Senate Committee on Rules and the Speaker of the Assembly shall each appoint two public members. In appointing the seven licensee members, the Governor shall appoint members representing a cross section of the accounting profession with at least two members representing a small public accounting firm. For the purposes of this chapter, a small public accounting firm shall be defined as a professional firm that employs a total of no more than four licensees as partners, owners, or full-time employees in the practice of public accountancy within the State of California.

This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2016, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2016, deletes or extends that date.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the repeal of this section renders the board subject to review by the appropriate policy committees of the Legislature. However, the review of the board shall be limited to reports or studies specified in this chapter and those issues identified by the appropriate policy committees of the Legislature and the board regarding the implementation of new licensing requirements.

SEC. 6. Section 5015.6 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

5015.6. The board may appoint a person exempt from civil service who shall be designated as an executive officer and who shall exercise the powers and perform the duties delegated by the board and vested in him or her by this chapter.

This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2016, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2016, deletes or extends that date.

SEC. 7. Section 5063.10 is added to the Business and Professions Code, to read:

5063.10. (a) Any restatement of a financial statement that is included in any report filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission shall be exempt from the requirement described in paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 5063.

(b) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require the reporting of any restatement of a financial statement that is not required to be submitted to the board pursuant to the regulations adopted by the board in effect on the date this section becomes operative.

SEC. 8. Section 5076 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

5076. (a) In order to renew its registration, a firm, as defined in Section 5035.1, shall have a peer review report of its accounting and auditing practice accepted by a board-recognized peer review program no less frequently than every three years.

(b) For purposes of this article, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Peer review" means a study, appraisal, or review conducted in accordance with professional standards of the professional work of a firm,

and may include an evaluation of other factors in accordance with the requirements specified by the board in regulations. The peer review report shall be issued by an individual who has a valid and current license, certificate, or permit to practice public accountancy from this state or another state and is unaffiliated with the firm being reviewed.

(2) “Accounting and auditing practice” includes any services that are performed using professional standards defined by the board in regulations.

(c) The board shall adopt regulations as necessary to implement, interpret, and make specific the peer review requirements in this section, including, but not limited to, regulations specifying the requirements for board recognition of a peer review program, standards for administering a peer review, extensions of time for fulfilling the peer review requirement, exclusions from the peer review program, and document submission.

(d) The board shall adopt emergency regulations in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code) to establish policies, guidelines, and procedures as outlined in subdivision (c). The adoption of the regulations shall be considered by the Office of Administrative Law to be necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, or general welfare. The emergency regulations shall be submitted to the Office of Administrative Law for filing with the Secretary of State and publication in the California Code of Regulations, and shall be replaced in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act.

(e) Nothing in this section shall prohibit the board from initiating an investigation and imposing discipline against a firm or licensee, either as the result of a complaint that alleges violations of statutes, rules, or regulations, or from information contained in a peer review report received by the board.

(f) A firm issued a substandard peer review report, as defined by the board in regulation, shall submit a copy of that report to the board. The board shall establish in regulation the time period that a firm must submit the report to the board. This period shall not exceed 60 days from the time the report is accepted by a board-recognized peer review program provider to the date the report is submitted to the board.

(g) (1) A board-recognized peer review program provider shall file a copy with the board of all substandard peer review reports issued to California-licensed firms. The board shall establish in regulation the time period that a board-recognized peer review program provider shall file the report with the board. This period shall not exceed 60 days from the time the report is accepted by a board-recognized peer review program provider to the date the report is filed with the board. These reports may be filed with the board electronically.

(2) Nothing in this subdivision shall require a board-recognized peer review program provider, when administering peer reviews in another state, to violate the laws of that state.

(h) The board shall, by January 1, 2010, define a substandard peer review report in regulation.

(i) Any requirements imposed by a board-recognized peer review program on a firm in conjunction with the completion of a peer review shall be separate from, and in addition to, any action by the board pursuant to this section.

(j) Any report of a substandard peer review submitted to the board in conjunction with this section shall be collected for investigatory purposes.

(k) Nothing in this section affects the discovery or admissibility of evidence in a civil or criminal action.

(l) Nothing in this section requires any firm to become a member of any professional organization.

(m) A peer reviewer shall not disclose information concerning licensees or their clients obtained during a peer review, unless specifically authorized pursuant to this section, Section 5076.1, or regulations prescribed by the board.

(n) (1) By January 1, 2015, the board shall provide the Legislature and Governor with a report regarding the peer review requirements of this section that includes, without limitation:

(A) The number of peer review reports completed to date and the number of reports which were submitted to the board as required in subdivision (f).

(B) The number of enforcement actions that were initiated as a result of an investigation conducted pursuant to subdivision (j).

(C) The number of firms that were recommended to take corrective actions to improve their practice through the mandatory peer review process, and the number of firms that took corrective actions to improve their practice following recommendations resulting from the mandatory peer review process.

(D) The extent to which mandatory peer review of accounting firms enhances consumer protection.

(E) The cost impact on firms undergoing mandatory peer review and the cost impact of mandatory peer review on the firm's clients.

(F) A recommendation as to whether the mandatory peer review program should continue.

(G) The extent to which mandatory peer review of small firms or sole practitioners that prepare nondisclosure compiled financial statements on an other comprehensive basis of accounting enhances consumer protection.

(H) The impact of peer review required by this section on small firms and sole practitioners that prepare nondisclosure compiled financial statements on an other comprehensive basis of accounting.

(I) The impact of peer review required by this section on small businesses, nonprofit corporations, and other entities that utilize small firms or sole practitioners for the purposes of nondisclosure compiled financial statements prepared on an other comprehensive basis of accounting.

(J) A recommendation as to whether the preparation of nondisclosure compiled financial statements on an other comprehensive basis of accounting should continue to be a part of the mandatory peer review program.

(2) A report to the Legislature pursuant to this section shall be submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government Code.

SEC. 9. Section 5076.1 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

5076.1. (a) The board shall appoint a peer review oversight committee of certified public accountants of this state who maintain a license in good standing and who are authorized to practice public accountancy to provide recommendations to the board on any matter upon which it is authorized to act to ensure the effectiveness of mandatory peer review.

(b) The committee may request any information from a board-recognized peer review program provider deemed necessary to ensure the provider is administering peer reviews in accordance with the standards adopted by the board in regulations. Failure of a board-recognized peer review program provider to respond to the committee shall result in referral by the committee of the provider to the board for further action. Any information obtained by the board, its representatives, or the peer review oversight committee in conjunction with its review of peer review program providers shall not be a public record, and shall be exempt from public disclosure, provided, however, this information may be disclosed under any of the following circumstances:

- (1) In connection with disciplinary proceedings of the board.
- (2) In connection with legal proceedings in which the board is a party.
- (3) In response to an official inquiry by a federal or state governmental regulatory agency.
- (4) In compliance with a subpoena or summons enforceable by court order.
- (5) As otherwise specifically required by law.

(c) The members of the committee shall be appointed to two-year terms and may serve a maximum of four consecutive terms.

(d) The board may adopt, as necessary, regulations further defining the minimum qualifications for appointment as a committee member and additional administrative elements designed to ensure the effectiveness of mandatory peer review.

SEC. 10. Section 5510 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

5510. There is in the Department of Consumer Affairs a California Architects Board which consists of 10 members.

Any reference in law to the California Board of Architectural Examiners shall mean the California Architects Board.

This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2016, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2016, deletes or extends that date. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the repeal of this section renders the board subject to review by the appropriate policy committees of the Legislature.

SEC. 11. Section 5517 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

5517. The board may appoint a person exempt from civil service who shall be designated as an executive officer and who shall exercise the powers and perform the duties delegated by the board and vested in him or her by this chapter.

This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2016, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2016, deletes or extends that date.

SEC. 12. Section 5552.5 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

5552.5. The board may, by regulation, implement an intern development program.

SEC. 13. Section 5620 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

5620. The duties, powers, purposes, responsibilities, and jurisdiction of the California State Board of Landscape Architects that were succeeded to and vested with the Department of Consumer Affairs in accordance with Chapter 908 of the Statutes of 1994 are hereby transferred to the California Architects Board. The Legislature finds that the purpose for the transfer of power is to promote and enhance the efficiency of state government and that assumption of the powers and duties by the California Architects Board shall not be viewed or construed as a precedent for the establishment of state regulation over a profession or vocation that was not previously regulated by a board, as defined in Section 477.

(a) There is in the Department of Consumer Affairs a California Architects Board as defined in Article 2 (commencing with Section 5510) of Chapter 3.

Whenever in this chapter “board” is used, it refers to the California Architects Board.

(b) Except as provided herein, the board may delegate its authority under this chapter to the Landscape Architects Technical Committee.

(c) After review of proposed regulations, the board may direct the examining committee to notice and conduct hearings to adopt, amend, or repeal regulations pursuant to Section 5630, provided that the board itself shall take final action to adopt, amend, or repeal those regulations.

(d) The board shall not delegate its authority to discipline a landscape architect or to take action against a person who has violated this chapter.

(e) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2016, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2016, deletes or extends that date.

SEC. 14. Section 5621 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

5621. (a) There is hereby created within the jurisdiction of the board, a Landscape Architects Technical Committee, hereinafter referred to in this chapter as the landscape architects committee.

(b) The landscape architects committee shall consist of five members who shall be licensed to practice landscape architecture in this state. The

Governor shall appoint three of the members. The Senate Committee on Rules and the Speaker of the Assembly shall appoint one member each.

(c) The initial members to be appointed by the Governor are as follows: one member for a term of one year; one member for a term of two years; and one member for a term of three years. The Senate Committee on Rules and the Speaker of the Assembly shall initially each appoint one member for a term of four years. Thereafter, appointments shall be made for four-year terms, expiring on June 1 of the fourth year and until the appointment and qualification of his or her successor or until one year shall have elapsed, whichever first occurs. Vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired term.

(d) No person shall serve as a member of the landscape architects committee for more than two consecutive terms.

(e) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2016, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2016, deletes or extends that date.

SEC. 15. Section 5622 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

5622. (a) The landscape architects committee may assist the board in the examination of candidates for a landscape architect's license and, after investigation, evaluate and make recommendations regarding potential violations of this chapter.

(b) The landscape architects committee may investigate, assist, and make recommendations to the board regarding the regulation of landscape architects in this state.

(c) The landscape architects committee may perform duties and functions that have been delegated to it by the board pursuant to Section 5620.

(d) The landscape architects committee may send a representative to all meetings of the full board to report on the committee's activities.

(e) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2016, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2016, deletes or extends that date.

SEC. 16. Section 6510 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

6510. (a) There is within the jurisdiction of the department the Professional Fiduciaries Bureau. The bureau is under the supervision and control of the director. The duty of enforcing and administering this chapter is vested in the chief of the bureau, who is responsible to the director. Every power granted or duty imposed upon the director under this chapter may be exercised or performed in the name of the director by a deputy director or by the chief, subject to conditions and limitations as the director may prescribe.

(b) The Governor shall appoint, subject to confirmation by the Senate, the chief of the bureau, at a salary to be fixed and determined by the director with the approval of the Director of Finance. The chief shall serve under the direction and supervision of the director and at the pleasure of the Governor.

(c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2015, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2015, deletes or extends that date.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the repeal of this section renders the board subject to review by the appropriate policy committees of the Legislature.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, upon the repeal of this section, the responsibilities and jurisdiction of the bureau shall be transferred to the Professional Fiduciaries Advisory Committee, as provided by Section 6511.

SEC. 17. Section 6582.2 is added to the Business and Professions Code, to read:

6582.2. (a) Notwithstanding Section 6582 and Section 11415.60 of the Government Code, the bureau may enter into a settlement with a licensee or applicant instead of the issuance of an accusation or statement of issues against that licensee or applicant.

(b) The settlement shall identify the factual basis for the action being taken and the statutes or regulations violated.

(c) Any settlement with a licensee executed pursuant to this section shall be considered discipline and a public record and shall be posted on the bureau's Internet Web site. Any settlement with an applicant executed pursuant to this section shall be considered a public record and shall be posted on the bureau's Internet Web site.

SEC. 18. Section 6710 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

6710. (a) There is in the Department of Consumer Affairs a Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists, which consists of 15 members.

(b) Any reference in any law or regulation to the Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, or the Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, is deemed to refer to the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists.

(c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2016, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2016, deletes or extends that date. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the repeal of this section renders the board subject to review by the appropriate policy committees of the Legislature.

SEC. 19. Section 6714 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

6714. The board shall appoint an executive officer at a salary to be fixed and determined by the board with the approval of the Director of Finance.

This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2016, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2016, deletes or extends that date.

SEC. 20. Section 6763.1 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

6763.1. An applicant to use the title “structural engineer” shall have successfully passed a written examination for structural engineering that is administered by a nationally recognized entity approved by the board.

SEC. 21. Section 7000.5 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

7000.5. (a) There is in the Department of Consumer Affairs a Contractors’ State License Board, which consists of 15 members.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the repeal of this section renders the board subject to review by the appropriate policy committees of the Legislature.

(c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2016, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2016, deletes or extends that date.

SEC. 22. Section 7011 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

7011. (a) The board, by and with the approval of the director, shall appoint a registrar of contractors and fix his or her compensation.

(b) The registrar shall be the executive officer and secretary of the board and shall carry out all of the administrative duties as provided in this chapter and as delegated to him or her by the board.

(c) For the purpose of administration of this chapter, there may be appointed a deputy registrar, a chief reviewing and hearing officer, and, subject to Section 159.5, other assistants and subordinates as may be necessary.

(d) Appointments shall be made in accordance with the provisions of civil service laws.

(e) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2016, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2016, deletes or extends that date.

SEC. 23. Section 7200 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

7200. (a) There is in the Department of Consumer Affairs a State Board of Guide Dogs for the Blind in whom enforcement of this chapter is vested. The board shall consist of seven members appointed by the Governor. One member shall be the Director of Rehabilitation or his or her designated representative. The remaining members shall be persons who have shown a particular interest in dealing with the problems of the blind, and at least two of them shall be blind persons who use guide dogs.

(b) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2014, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2014, deletes or extends that date. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the repeal of this section renders the board subject to review by the appropriate policy committees of the Legislature.

SEC. 24. Section 7215.6 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

7215.6. (a) In order to provide a procedure for the resolution of disputes between guide dog users and guide dog schools relating to the continued

physical custody and use of a guide dog, in all cases except those in which the dog user is the unconditional legal owner of the dog, the following arbitration procedure shall be established as a pilot project.

(b) This procedure establishes an arbitration panel for the settlement of disputes between a guide dog user and a licensed guide dog school regarding the continued use of a guide dog by the user in all cases except those in which the dog user is the unconditional legal owner of the dog. The disputes that may be subject to this procedure concern differences between the user and school over whether or not a guide dog should continue to be used, differences between the user and school regarding the treatment of a dog by the user, and differences over whether or not a user should continue to have custody of a dog pending investigation of charges of abuse. It specifically does not address issues such as admissions to schools, training practices, or other issues relating to school standards. The board and its representative are not parties to any dispute described in this section.

(c) The licensed guide dog schools in California and the board shall provide to guide dog users graduating from guide dog programs in these schools a new avenue for the resolution of disputes that involve continued use of a guide dog, or the actual physical custody of a guide dog. Guide dog users who are dissatisfied with decisions of schools regarding continued use of guide dogs may appeal to the board to convene an arbitration panel composed of all of the following:

- (1) One person designated by the guide dog user.
- (2) One person designated by the licensed guide dog school.
- (3) A representative of the board who shall coordinate the activities of the panel and serve as chair.

(d) If the guide dog user or guide dog school wishes to utilize the arbitration panel, this must be stated in writing to the board. The findings and decision of the arbitration panel shall be final and binding. By voluntarily agreeing to having a dispute resolved by the arbitration panel and subject to its procedures, each party to the dispute shall waive any right for subsequent judicial review.

(e) A licensed guide dog school that fails to comply with any provision of this section shall automatically be subject to a penalty of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) per day for each day in which a violation occurs. The penalty shall be paid to the board. The license of a guide dog school shall not be renewed until all penalties have been paid.

The fine shall be assessed without advance hearing, but the licensee may apply to the board for a hearing on the issue of whether the fine should be modified or set aside. This application shall be in writing and shall be received by the board within 30 days after service of notice of the fine. Upon receipt of this written request, the board shall set the matter for hearing within 60 days.

(f) As a general rule, custody of the guide dog shall remain with the guide dog user pending a resolution by the arbitration panel. In circumstances where the immediate health and safety of the guide dog user or guide dog is threatened, the licensed school may take custody of the dog at once.

However, if the dog is removed from the user's custody without the user's concurrence, the school shall provide to the board the evidence that caused this action to be taken at once and without fail; and within five calendar days a special committee of two members of the board shall make a determination regarding custody of the dog pending hearing by the arbitration panel.

(g) The arbitration panel shall decide the best means to determine final resolution in each case. This shall include, but is not limited to, a hearing of the matter before the arbitration panel at the request of either party to the dispute, an opportunity for each party in the dispute to make presentations before the arbitration panel, examination of the written record, or any other inquiry as will best reveal the facts of the disputes. In any case, the panel shall make its findings and complete its examination within 45 calendar days of the date of filing the request for arbitration, and a decision shall be rendered within 10 calendar days of the examination.

All arbitration hearings shall be held at sites convenient to the parties and with a view to minimizing costs. Each party to the arbitration shall bear its own costs, except that the arbitration panel, by unanimous agreement, may modify this arrangement.

(h) The board may study the effectiveness of the arbitration panel pilot project in expediting resolution and reducing conflict in disputes between guide dog users and guide dog schools and may share its findings with the Legislature upon request.

(i) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2014, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2014, deletes or extends that date.

SEC. 25. Section 7885 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

7885. (a) The board shall report each month to the State Controller the amount and source of all revenue received by it pursuant to this chapter and at the same time pay the entire amount thereof into the State Treasury for credit to the Geology and Geophysics Account, which is hereby created within the Professional Engineer's and Land Surveyor's Fund established in Section 6797.

(b) All moneys in the Geology and Geophysics Fund on January 1, 2012, shall be transferred on that date to the Geology and Geophysics Account of the Professional Engineer's and Land Surveyor's Fund.

SEC. 26. Section 7886 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

7886. The moneys paid into the Geology and Geophysics Account of the Professional Engineer's and Land Surveyor's Fund pursuant to this chapter are hereby appropriated to be used by the board to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

SEC. 27. Section 7887 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

7887. The amount of the fees prescribed by this chapter shall be fixed by the board in accordance with the following schedule:

(a) The fee for filing each application for registration as a geologist or a geophysicist or certification as a specialty geologist or a specialty geophysicist and for administration of the examination at not more than two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250).

(b) The registration fee for a geologist or for a geophysicist and the fee for the certification in a specialty shall be fixed at an amount equal to the renewal fee in effect on the last regular renewal date before the date on which the certificate is issued, except that, with respect to certificates that will expire less than one year after issuance, the fee shall be fixed at an amount equal to 50 percent of the renewal fee in effect on the last regular renewal date before the date on which the certificate is issued. The board may, by appropriate regulation, provide for the waiver or refund of the initial certificate fee where the certificate is issued less than 45 days before the date on which it will expire.

(c) The duplicate certificate fee at not more than six dollars (\$6).

(d) The temporary registration fee for a geologist or for a geophysicist at not more than eighty dollars (\$80).

(e) The renewal fee for a geologist or for a geophysicist shall be fixed by the board at not more than four hundred dollars (\$400).

(f) The renewal fee for a specialty geologist or for a specialty geophysicist at not more than one hundred dollars (\$100).

(g) Notwithstanding Section 163.5, the delinquency fee for a certificate is an amount equal to 50 percent of the renewal fee in effect on the last regular renewal date.

(h) Each applicant for registration as a geologist shall pay an examination fee fixed by the board at an amount equal to the actual cost to the board to administer the examination described in subdivision (d) of Section 7841.

(i) Each applicant for registration as a geophysicist or certification as an engineering geologist or certification as a hydrogeologist shall pay an examination fee fixed by the board at an amount equal to the actual cost to the board for the development and maintenance of the written examination, and shall not exceed one hundred dollars (\$100).

SEC. 28. Section 8710 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

8710. (a) The Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists is vested with power to administer the provisions and requirements of this chapter, and may make and enforce rules and regulations that are reasonably necessary to carry out its provisions.

(b) The board may adopt rules and regulations of professional conduct that are not inconsistent with state and federal law. The rules and regulations may include definitions of incompetence and negligence. Every person who holds a license or certificate issued by the board pursuant to this chapter, or a license or certificate issued to a civil engineer pursuant to Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 6700), shall be governed by these rules and regulations.

(c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2016, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before

January 1, 2016, deletes or extends that date. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the repeal of this section renders the board subject to review by the appropriate policy committees of the Legislature.

SEC. 29. Section 18602 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

18602. (a) Except as provided in this section, there is in the Department of Consumer Affairs the State Athletic Commission, which consists of seven members. Five members shall be appointed by the Governor, one member shall be appointed by the Senate Rules Committee, and one member shall be appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly.

The members of the commission appointed by the Governor are subject to confirmation by the Senate pursuant to Section 1322 of the Government Code.

No person who is currently licensed, or who was licensed within the last two years, under this chapter may be appointed or reappointed to, or serve on, the commission.

(b) In appointing commissioners under this section, the Governor, the Senate Rules Committee, and the Speaker of the Assembly shall make every effort to ensure that at least four of the members of the commission shall have experience and demonstrate expertise in one of the following areas:

(1) A licensed physician or surgeon having expertise or specializing in neurology, neurosurgery, head trauma, or sports medicine. Sports medicine includes, but is not limited to, physiology, kinesiology, or other aspects of sports medicine.

(2) Financial management.

(3) Public safety.

(4) Past experience in the activity regulated by this chapter, either as a contestant, a referee or official, a promoter, or a venue operator.

(c) Each member of the commission shall be appointed for a term of four years. All terms shall end on January 1. Vacancies occurring prior to the expiration of the term shall be filled by appointment for the unexpired term. No commission member may serve more than two consecutive terms.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, members first appointed shall be subject to the following terms:

(1) The Governor shall appoint two members for two years, two members for three years, and one member for four years.

(2) The Senate Committee on Rules shall appoint one member for four years.

(3) The Speaker of the Assembly shall appoint one member for four years.

(e) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2014, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2014, deletes or extends that date.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the repeal of this section renders the board subject to review by the appropriate policy committees of the Legislature.

SEC. 30. Section 18613 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

18613. (a) (1) The commission shall appoint a person exempt from civil service who shall be designated as an executive officer and who shall exercise the powers and perform the duties delegated by the commission and vested in him or her by this chapter. The appointment of the executive officer is subject to the approval of the Director of Consumer Affairs.

(2) The commission may employ in accordance with Section 154 other personnel as may be necessary for the administration of this chapter.

(b) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2014, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2014, deletes or extends that date.

SEC. 31. Section 18618 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

18618. The commission shall furnish to the Governor and the Legislature a report, on or before July 30, 2012, on the following:

(a) The condition of the State Athletic Commission Neurological Examination Account. This report shall include the amount of the assessment collected from each promoter pursuant to Section 18711, the purposes for which moneys in the account are expended, and findings and recommendations on the amounts, appropriateness, and effectiveness of these assessments. The report shall also include a recommendation on the viability and need for creating a medical database that would be used for identifying trends in medical records and data associated with injuries and deaths related to competing.

(b) The condition of the Boxers' Pension Fund. This report shall include a recommendation on whether the fund should be continued and, if so, whether it should be expanded to include all athletes licensed under this chapter and appropriate fees paid into the fund.

SEC. 32. Section 2.5 of this bill incorporates amendments to Section 205 of the Business and Professions Code proposed by both this bill and Senate Bill 933. It shall only become operative if (1) both bills are enacted and become effective on or before January 1, 2012, (2) each bill amends Section 205 of the Business and Professions Code, and (3) this bill is enacted after Senate Bill 933, in which case Section 2 of this bill shall not become operative.