

**Senate Bill No. 523**

**CHAPTER 938**

An act to amend Sections 124, 4160, 10175.2, and 23083 of the Business and Professions Code, to amend Sections 232 and 94323 of, and to add Section 92001 to, the Education Code, to amend Section 755.5 of the Evidence Code, to amend Sections 3373 and 8054 of the Financial Code, to amend Sections 202 and 355 of the Fish and Game Code, to amend Sections 3541.3, 3563, 8541, 11018, 11125.7, 11340.5, 11342, 11346.2, 11349.5, 11349.9, 11350, 11370, 11370.3, 11370.5, 11371, 11500, 11502, 11505, 11506, 11507.6, 11507.7, 11508, 11509, 11511, 11511.5, 11512, 11513, 11517, 11518, 11519, 11520, 11523, 11524, 11526, 11529, 12935, 19582.5, 21758, and 37624.2 of, to amend the heading of Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of, to amend, repeal, and add Sections 11501 and 68560.5 of, to add Sections 11340.4, 11507.3, 11511.7, 11518.5, 15609.5, and 17533 to, to add article headings immediately preceding Sections 11370 and 11371 of, to add Article 3 (commencing with Section 11380) to Chapter 4 of, and to add Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 11400) to, Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of, and to repeal Sections 11346.14, 11346.6, 11501.5, 11502.1, 11510, 11513.5, 11525, and 11530 of, the Government Code, to amend Sections 443.37, 1551.5, 1568.065, 1569.515, 1596.8875, 11830, 11830.5, 11834.37, 11994, 18930, 18949.6, 25149, 25229, 25299.59, 25375.5, 32154, 39657, 40843, 50199.17, and 57005 of the Health and Safety Code, to amend Sections 146, 4600, 5278, 5710, 5811, 6380.5, and 6603 of, and to add Section 1144.5 to, the Labor Code, to add Section 105 to the Military and Veterans Code, to add Section 3066 to the Penal Code, to amend Sections 663.1, 4204, and 40412 of, and to add Sections 25513.3 and 30329 to, the Public Resources Code, to amend Section 1701 of the Public Utilities Code, to amend Sections 1636, 19044, and 19084 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, to amend Section 409 of the Unemployment Insurance Code, to amend Sections 3066, 11728, and 14112 of the Vehicle Code, and to amend Sections 4689.5 and 14105.41 of, to amend and repeal Section 11350.6 of, and to add Sections 1778 and 3158 to, the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to administrative procedure.

[Approved by Governor October 15, 1995. Filed with Secretary of State October 16, 1995.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 523, Kopp. Administrative procedure.

The Administrative Procedure Act contains provisions governing the conduct of administrative adjudication and rulemaking proceedings of state agencies.

This bill would revise the procedures for administrative adjudications by expanding the hearing procedure options available to state agencies and by including additional due process and public policy requirements, as specified. These revisions would be operative July 1, 1997.

This bill would make conforming changes to reflect revisions made by Chapter 1039 of the Statutes of 1994, and would also make various technical, nonsubstantive changes.

This bill, in addition, would incorporate additional changes in Section 11350 of the Government Code, proposed by SB 452, to be operative only if SB 452 and this bill are both chaptered and become effective January 1, 1996, and this bill is chaptered last. It would also incorporate additional changes in Section 11350.6 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, proposed by AB 257, to be operative only if AB 257 and this bill are both chaptered and become effective January 1, 1996, and this bill is chaptered last.

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

SECTION 1. Section 124 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

124. Notwithstanding subdivision (c) of Section 11505 of the Government Code, whenever written notice, including a notice, order, or document served pursuant to Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340), Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 11370), or Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500), of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, is required to be given by any board in the department, the notice may be given by regular mail addressed to the last known address of the licensee or by personal service, at the option of the board.

SEC. 2. Section 4160 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

4160. (a) The California Hazardous Substances Act, Chapter 13 (commencing with Section 28740) of Division 21 of the Health and Safety Code, applies to pharmacies and pharmacists and any other person or place subject to the jurisdiction of the board.

(b) The board may enforce that act when necessary for the protection of the health and safety of the public if prior regulatory notice is given in accordance with the rulemaking provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code). Board enforcement shall focus on those hazardous substances which relate significantly to or overlap the practice of pharmacy.

(c) "Poison," as used elsewhere in this chapter, shall reference a category of hazardous substances defined in Section 28743 of the Health and Safety Code which the board may by regulation make more specific.

SEC. 3. Section 10175.2 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

10175.2. (a) If the Real Estate Commissioner determines that the public interest and public welfare will be adequately served by permitting a real estate licensee to pay a monetary penalty to the department in lieu of an actual license suspension, the commissioner may, on the petition of the licensee, stay the execution of all or some part of the suspension on the condition that the licensee pay a monetary penalty and the further condition that the licensee incur no other cause for disciplinary action within a period of time specified by the commissioner.

(b) The commissioner may exercise the discretion granted under subdivision (a) either with respect to a suspension ordered by a decision after a contested hearing on an accusation against the licensee or by stipulation with the licensee after the filing of an accusation, but prior to the rendering of a decision based upon the accusation. In either case, the terms and conditions of the disciplinary action against the licensee shall be made part of a formal decision of the commissioner.

(c) If a licensee fails to pay the monetary penalty in accordance with the terms and conditions of the decision of the commissioner, the commissioner may, without a hearing, order the immediate execution of all or any part of the stayed suspension in which event the licensee shall not be entitled to any repayment nor credit, prorated or otherwise, for money paid to the department under the terms of the decision.

(d) The amount of the monetary penalty payable under this section shall not exceed two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for each day of suspension stayed nor a total of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) per decision regardless of the number of days of suspension stayed under the decision.

(e) Any monetary penalty received by the department pursuant to this section shall be credited to the Recovery Account of the Real Estate Fund.

SEC. 4. Section 23083 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

23083. (a) The board shall determine the appeal upon the record of the department and upon any briefs which may be filed by the parties. If any party to the appeal requests the right to appear before the board, the board shall fix a time and place for argument. The board shall not receive any evidence other than that contained in the record of the proceedings of the department.

(b) Notwithstanding Section 11425.10 of the Government Code, Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 11400) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code does not apply to the determination.

SEC. 5. Section 232 of the Education Code is amended to read:

232. The State Board of Education, the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, and the Trustees of the California State University shall issue regulations pursuant to Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, commonly referred to as the rulemaking provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, to implement this chapter.

The Regents of the University of California may issue regulations to implement this chapter. If the Regents of the University of California choose to issue regulations it may issue them pursuant to Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, commonly referred to as the rulemaking provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act.

SEC. 6. Section 92001 is added to the Education Code, to read:

92001. Notwithstanding Section 11425.10 of the Government Code, Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 11400) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code does not apply to a hearing conducted by the University of California.

SEC. 7. Section 94323 of the Education Code is amended to read:

94323. (a) This section establishes the procedure for notice and hearing required under this chapter and, except as provided in Sections 94319.12 and 94322, may be used in lieu of other notice or hearing requirements provided in this chapter.

(b) If notice of administrative action is required by this chapter, the council shall serve notice stating the following:

(1) The action, including the penalties and administrative sanctions sought.

(2) The grounds for the action with sufficient particularity to give notice of the transactions, occurrences, violations, or other matters on which the action is based.

(3) The right to a hearing and the time period within which the party subject to the notice may request a hearing in writing. The time period shall not be less than 15 days after service of the notice unless a longer period is provided by statute.

(4) The right to be present at the hearing, to be represented by counsel, to cross-examine witnesses, and to present evidence.

(5) The administrative action set forth in the notice will be taken and shall become final if the party subject to the notice does not request a hearing in writing within the time period expressed in the notice.

(c) If a party subject to a notice provided pursuant to subdivision (b) requests a hearing in writing within 10 days of receiving the

notice, the council shall schedule a hearing. The hearing shall be held in a location determined pursuant to Section 11508 of the Government Code. The council shall serve reasonable notice of the time and place for the hearing at least 10 days before the hearing. The council may continue the date of the hearing upon a showing of good cause.

(d) (1) Any party, including the council, may submit a written request to any other party before the hearing to obtain the names and addresses of any person who has personal knowledge, or who the party receiving the request claims to have personal knowledge, of any of the transactions, occurrences, violations, or other matters that are the bases of the administrative action. In addition, the requesting party shall have the right to inspect and copy any written statement made by that person and any writing, as defined by Section 250 of the Evidence Code, or thing that is in the custody, or under the control, of the party receiving the request and that is relevant and not privileged. This subdivision shall constitute the exclusive method for prehearing discovery. However, nothing herein shall affect the council's authority, at any time, to investigate, inspect, monitor, or obtain and copy information under any provision of this chapter.

(2) The written request described in paragraph (1) shall be made before the hearing and within 30 days of the service of the notice described in subdivision (b). Each recipient of a request shall comply with the request within 15 days of its service by providing the names and addresses requested and by producing at a reasonable time at the council's office or another mutually agreed reasonable place the requested writings and things. The council may extend the time for response upon a showing of good cause.

(3) Except as provided in this paragraph, no party may introduce the testimony or statement of any person or any writing or thing into evidence at the hearing if that party failed to provide the name and address of the person or to produce the writing or thing for inspection and copying as provided by this subdivision. A party may introduce the testimony, statement, writing, or thing that was not identified or produced as required herein only if there is no objection or if the party establishes that the person, writing, or thing was unknown at the time when the response was made to the written request, the party could not have informed other parties within a reasonable time after learning of the existence of the person, writing, or thing, and no party would be prejudiced by the introduction of the evidence.

(e) Before the hearing has commenced, the council shall issue subpoenas at the written request of any party for the attendance of witnesses or the production of documents or other things in the custody or under the control of the person subject to the subpoena. Subpoenas issued pursuant to this section shall be subject to Article 11 (commencing with Section 11450.10) of Chapter 4.5 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

(f) (1) The council shall designate an impartial hearing officer to conduct the hearing. The hearing officer may administer oaths and affirmations, regulate the course of the hearing, question witnesses, and otherwise investigate the issues, take official notice according to the procedure provided in Division 4 (commencing with Section 450) of the Evidence Code of any technical or educational matter in the council's special field of expertise and of any matter that may be judicially noticed, set the time and place for continued hearings, fix the time for the filing of briefs and other documents, direct any party to appear and confer to consider the simplification of issues by consent, and prepare a statement of decision.

(2) In addition to the sanctions provided in Article 7 (commencing with Section 11430.10) of Chapter 4.5 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, if the council finds that any party willfully violated, or caused the violation of, that article, the council shall enter that party's default and impose the administrative sanction set forth in the notice provided pursuant to subdivision (b).

(g) (1) Each party at the hearing shall be afforded an opportunity to present evidence, respond to evidence presented by other parties, cross-examine, and present written argument or, if permitted by the hearing officer, oral argument on the issues involved in the hearing. The council may call any party as a witness who may be examined as if under cross-examination.

(2) Each party may appear through its representative or through legal counsel.

(3) The technical rules relating to evidence and witnesses shall not apply. However, only relevant evidence is admissible.

(4) Oral evidence shall be taken only upon oath or affirmation. The hearing shall be conducted in the English language. The proponent of any testimony to be offered by a witness who is not proficient in English shall provide, at the proponent's cost, an interpreter proficient in English and the language in which the witness will testify.

(5) The hearing shall be recorded by tape recording or other phonographic means unless all parties agree to another method of recording the proceedings.

(6) (A) At any time 10 or more days before the hearing, any party may serve on the other parties a copy of any declaration which the party proposes to introduce in evidence.

(B) The declaration shall be accompanied by a notice indicating the date of service of the notice and stating that the declarations will be offered into evidence, the declarants will not be called as witnesses, and there will be no right of cross-examination unless the party receiving the notice requests the right to cross-examine, in writing, within seven days of the service of the declarations and notice.

(C) If no request for cross-examination is served within seven days of the service of the declarations and notice described in subparagraph (B), the right to cross-examination is deemed waived and the declaration shall have the same effect as if the declarant testified orally. Notwithstanding this paragraph, a declaration may be admitted as hearsay evidence without cross-examination.

(7) Disposition of any issues involved in the hearing may be made by stipulation or settlement.

(8) If a party fails to appear at a hearing, that party's default shall be taken and the party shall be deemed to have waived the hearing and agreed to the administrative action and the grounds for that action described in the notice given pursuant to subdivision (b). The council shall serve the party with an order of default including the administrative action ordered. The order shall be effective upon service or at any other time designated by the council. The council may relieve a party from an order of default if the party applies for relief within 15 days after the service of an order of default and establishes good cause for relief. An application for relief from default shall not stay the effective date of the order unless expressly provided by the council.

(h) (1) At any time before the matter is submitted for decision, the council may amend the notice provided pursuant to subdivision (b) to set forth any further grounds for the originally noticed administrative action or any additional administrative action and the grounds therefor. The statement of the further grounds for the originally noticed administrative action, or of the grounds for any additional administrative action, shall be made with sufficient particularity to give notice of the transactions, occurrences, violations, or other matters on which the action or additional action is based. The amended notice shall be served on all parties. All parties affected by the amended notice shall be given reasonable opportunity to respond to the amended notice as provided in this section.

(2) The council may amend the notice after the case is submitted for decision. The council shall serve each party with notice of the intended amendment and shall provide the party with an opportunity to show that the party will be prejudiced by the amendment unless the case is reopened to permit the party to introduce additional evidence. If prejudice is shown, the council shall reopen the case to permit the introduction of additional evidence.

(i) (1) Within 30 days after the conclusion of the hearing or at another time established by the council, the hearing officer shall submit a written statement of decision setting forth a recommendation for a final decision. The written statement of decision shall be made as provided in Section 11425.50 of the Government Code. The council shall serve the hearing officer's

statement of decision on each party and its counsel within 10 days of its submission by the hearing officer.

(2) The council shall make the final decision which shall be based exclusively on evidence introduced at the hearing. The final decision shall be supported by substantial evidence in the record. The council also shall issue a statement of decision as provided in Section 11425.50 of the Government Code. The council shall issue an order based on its decision which shall be effective upon service or at any other time designated by the council. The council shall serve a copy of the final decision and order, within 10 days of their issuance, on each party and its counsel.

(3) The council may hold a closed session to deliberate on a decision to be reached based upon evidence introduced at the hearing.

(4) The council shall serve a certified copy of the complete record of the hearing, or any part thereof designated by a party, within 30 days after receiving the party's written request and payment of the cost of preparing the requested portions of the record. The complete record shall include all notices and orders issued by the council, a transcript of the hearing, the exhibits admitted or rejected, the written evidence and any other papers in the case, the hearing officer's statement of decision, and the final decision and order.

(j) The council shall serve all notices and other documents that are required to be served by this section on each party by personal delivery, by certified mail, return receipt requested, or by any other means designated by the council.

(k) (1) Any party aggrieved by the council's final decision and order may seek judicial review by filing a petition for a writ of mandate pursuant to Section 1085 of the Code of Civil Procedure within 30 days of the issuance of the final decision and order. If review is not sought within that period, the party's right to review shall be deemed waived.

(2) The aggrieved party shall present the complete record of the hearing or all portions of the record necessary for the court's review of the council's final decision and order. The court shall deny the petition for a writ of mandate if the record submitted by the party is incomplete. The court shall not consider any matter not contained in the record. The factual bases supporting the final decision set forth in the council's statement of decision shall be conclusive if supported by substantial evidence on the record considered as a whole.

(3) The final order shall not be stayed or enjoined during review except upon the court's grant of an order on a party's application after due notice to the council and the Attorney General. The order shall be granted only if the party establishes the substantial likelihood that it will prevail on the merits and posts a bond sufficient to protect fully the interests of the students, the council, and the Student Tuition Recovery Fund, from any loss.

(l) The council may adopt regulations establishing alternative means of providing notice and an opportunity to be heard in circumstances in which a full hearing is not required by law.

(m) For purposes of this section, "good cause" shall require sufficient ground or reason for the determination to be made by the council.

SEC. 8. Section 755.5 of the Evidence Code is amended to read:

755.5. (a) During any medical examination, requested by an insurer or by the defendant, of a person who is a party to a civil action and who does not proficiently speak or understand the English language, conducted for the purpose of determining damages in a civil action, an interpreter shall be present to interpret the examination in a language that the person understands. The interpreter shall be certified pursuant to Article 8 (commencing with Section 11435.05) of Chapter 4.5 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

(b) The fees of interpreters used under subdivision (a) shall be paid by the insurer or defendant requesting the medical examination.

(c) The record of, or testimony concerning, any medical examination conducted in violation of subdivision (a) shall be inadmissible in the civil action for which it was conducted or any other civil action.

(d) This section does not prohibit the presence of any other person to assist a party.

(e) In the event that interpreters certified pursuant to Article 8 (commencing with Section 11435.05) of Chapter 4.5 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code cannot be present at the medical examination, upon stipulation of the parties the requester specified in subdivision (a) shall have the discretionary authority to provisionally qualify and use other interpreters.

SEC. 9. Section 3373 of the Financial Code is amended to read:

3373. (a) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this article, whenever Section 215.2, 215.3, 215.4, 215.5, 215.7, or 215.8 is changed by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the superintendent may by regulation adopt that same change. Any regulation adopted under this section shall expire at 12 p.m. on December 31 of the year following the calendar year in which it becomes effective.

(b) For the purpose of Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, regulations adopted under this section are subject only to the provisions of Sections 11343.4, 11346.1, and 11349.6 of the Government Code.

SEC. 9.2. Section 8054 of the Financial Code is amended to read:

8054. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, whenever by statute or regulation there is extended to federal associations

doing business in this state any right, power, privilege, or duty not authorized for state associations, the commissioner may by regulation extend to state associations that right, power, privilege, or duty.

(b) Any regulation adopted under this section shall expire at 12 p.m. on December 31 of the year following the calendar year in which it is promulgated.

(c) For the purposes of Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code regulations adopted under this section are subject only to the provisions of Sections 11343.4, 11346.1, and 11349.6 of the Government Code.

(d) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any federal statute or regulation promulgated prior to January 1, 1984.

SEC. 9.4. Section 202 of the Fish and Game Code is amended to read:

202. The commission shall exercise its powers under this article by regulations made and promulgated pursuant to this article. Regulations adopted pursuant to this article shall not be subject to the time periods for the adoption, amendment, or repeal of regulations prescribed in Sections 11343.4, 11346.4, and 11346.8 of the Government Code.

SEC. 9.6. Section 355 of the Fish and Game Code is amended to read:

355. The commission may, annually, promulgate regulations pertaining to migratory birds to conform with or to further restrict the rules and regulations prescribed pursuant to the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

Regulations adopted under this section are not subject to Sections 11343.4, 11346.1, 11346.4, and 11346.8 of the Government Code.

Every regulation of the commission made pursuant to this article shall be filed with the Secretary of State, and shall become effective upon filing unless otherwise specified in the regulations.

SEC. 9.8. Section 3541.3 of the Government Code is amended to read:

3541.3. The board shall have all of the following powers and duties:

(a) To determine in disputed cases, or otherwise approve, appropriate units.

(b) To determine in disputed cases whether a particular item is within or without the scope of representation.

(c) To arrange for and supervise representation elections which shall be conducted by means of secret ballot elections, and certify the results of the elections.

(d) To establish lists of persons broadly representative of the public and qualified by experience to be available to serve as mediators, arbitrators, or factfinders. In no case shall these lists include persons who are on the staff of the board.

(e) To establish by regulation appropriate procedures for review of proposals to change unit determinations.

(f) Within its discretion, to conduct studies relating to employer-employee relations, including the collection, analysis, and making available of data relating to wages, benefits, and employment practices in public and private employment, and, when it appears necessary in its judgment to the accomplishment of the purposes of this chapter, recommend legislation. The board shall report to the Legislature by October 15 of each year on its activities during the immediately preceding fiscal year. The board may enter into contracts to develop and maintain research and training programs designed to assist public employers and employee organizations in the discharge of their mutual responsibilities under this chapter.

(g) To adopt, pursuant to Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2, rules and regulations to carry out the provisions and effectuate the purposes and policies of this chapter.

(h) To hold hearings, subpoena witnesses, administer oaths, take the testimony or deposition of any person, and, in connection therewith, to issue subpoenas duces tecum to require the production and examination of any employer's or employee organization's records, books, or papers relating to any matter within its jurisdiction. Notwithstanding Section 11425.10, Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 11400) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 does not apply to a hearing by the board under this chapter, except a hearing to determine an unfair practice charge.

(i) To investigate unfair practice charges or alleged violations of this chapter, and take any action and make any determinations in respect of these charges or alleged violations as the board deems necessary to effectuate the policies of this chapter.

(j) To bring an action in a court of competent jurisdiction to enforce any of its orders, decisions, or rulings, or to enforce the refusal to obey a subpoena. Upon issuance of a complaint charging that any person has engaged in or is engaging in an unfair practice, the board may petition the court for appropriate temporary relief or restraining order.

(k) To delegate its powers to any member of the board or to any person appointed by the board for the performance of its functions, except that no fewer than two board members may participate in the determination of any ruling or decision on the merits of any dispute coming before it, and except that a decision to refuse to issue a complaint shall require the approval of two board members.

(l) To decide contested matters involving recognition, certification, or decertification of employee organizations.

(m) To consider and decide issues relating to rights, privileges, and duties of an employee organization in the event of a merger,

amalgamation, or transfer of jurisdiction between two or more employee organizations.

(n) To take any other action as the board deems necessary to discharge its powers and duties and otherwise to effectuate the purposes of this chapter.

SEC. 10. Section 3563 of the Government Code is amended to read:

3563. This chapter shall be administered by the Public Employment Relations Board. In administering this chapter the board shall have all of the following rights, powers, duties and responsibilities:

(a) To determine in disputed cases, or otherwise approve, appropriate units.

(b) To determine in disputed cases whether a particular item is within or without the scope of representation.

(c) To arrange for and supervise representation elections which shall be conducted by means of secret ballot elections, and to certify the results of the elections.

(d) To establish lists of persons broadly representative of the public and qualified by experience to be available to serve as mediators, arbitrators, or factfinders. In no case shall the lists include persons who are on the staff of the board.

(e) To establish by regulation appropriate procedures for review of proposals to change unit determinations.

(f) To adopt, pursuant to Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2, rules and regulations to carry out the provisions and effectuate the purposes and policies of this chapter.

(g) To hold hearings, subpoena witnesses, administer oaths, take the testimony or deposition of any person, and, in connection therewith, to issue subpoenas duces tecum to require the production and examination of any employer's or employee organization's records, books, or papers relating to any matter within its jurisdiction, except for those records, books, or papers confidential under statute. Notwithstanding Section 11425.10, Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 11400) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 does not apply to a hearing by the board under this section, except a hearing to determine an unfair practice charge.

(h) To investigate unfair practice charges or alleged violations of this chapter, and to take any action and make any determinations in respect of these charges or alleged violations as the board deems necessary to effectuate the policies of this chapter.

(i) To bring an action in a court of competent jurisdiction to enforce any of its orders, decisions or rulings or to enforce the refusal to obey a subpoena. Upon issuance of a complaint charging that any person has engaged in or is engaging in an unfair practice, the board



may petition the court for appropriate temporary relief or restraining order.

(j) To delegate its powers to any member of the board or to any person appointed by the board for the performance of its functions, except that no fewer than two board members may participate in the determination of any ruling or decision on the merits of any dispute coming before it and except that a decision to refuse to issue a complaint shall require the approval of two board members.

(k) To decide contested matters involving recognition, certification, or decertification of employee organizations.

(l) To consider and decide issues relating to rights, privileges, and duties of an employee organization in the event of a merger, amalgamation, or transfer of jurisdiction between two or more employee organizations.

(m) To take any other action as the board deems necessary to discharge its powers and duties and otherwise to effectuate the purposes of this chapter.

SEC. 11. Section 8541 of the Government Code is amended to read:

8541. In carrying out its duties and responsibilities, the commission shall have all of the following powers:

(a) To meet at any time and place as it may deem proper.

(b) As a body or, on the authorization of the commission, as a subcommittee composed of one or more members, to hold hearings at any time and place as it may deem proper.

(c) To issue subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of books, records, papers, accounts, reports, and documents.

(d) To administer oaths.

(e) To employ, pursuant to laws and regulations governing state civil service, a secretary and any clerical, legal, and technical assistants as may appear necessary.

(f) To contract with any other agencies, public or private, as it deems necessary, for the rendition and affording of any services, facilities, studies and reports to the commission as will best assist it to carry out its duties and responsibilities.

(g) To cooperate with and to secure the cooperation of county, city, city and county, and other local law enforcement agencies in investigating any matter within the scope of its duties and responsibilities, and to direct the sheriff of any county or any marshal to serve subpoenas, orders, and other process.

(h) To certify to the superior court of any county in which proceedings are held, the facts concerning the disobedience or resistance, by any person, of any lawful order, or the refusal of any person to respond to a subpoena, to take the oath or affirmation as a witness, or to be examined, or the misconduct of any person during a hearing; and to receive the assistance of the court in enforcing

orders and process, in the manner prescribed by Article 12 (commencing with Section 11455.10) of Chapter 4.5 of Part 1 of Division 3.

(i) To cooperate with every department, agency, or instrumentality in the state government; and to secure directly from every department, agency, or instrumentality full cooperation, access to its records, and access to any information, suggestions, estimates, data, and statistics it may have available.

(j) To authorize its agents and employees to absent themselves from the state where necessary for the performance of their duties.

(k) To do any and all other things necessary or convenient to enable it fully and adequately to perform its duties and to exercise the powers expressly granted it, notwithstanding any authority expressly granted to any officer or employee of the executive branch of state government.

SEC. 12. Section 11018 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11018. Every state agency which is authorized by any law to conduct administrative hearings but is not subject to Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) shall nonetheless comply with Sections 11435.20, 11435.25, and 11435.55 relative to the furnishing of language assistance at the hearing.

SEC. 13. Section 11125.7 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11125.7. (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the state body shall provide an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the state body on each agenda item before or during the state body's discussion or consideration of the item. This section is not applicable if the agenda item has already been considered by a committee composed exclusively of members of the state body at a public meeting where interested members of the public were afforded the opportunity to address the committee on the item, before or during the committee's consideration of the item, unless the item has been substantially changed since the committee heard the item, as determined by the state body.

(b) The state body may adopt reasonable regulations to ensure that the intent of subdivision (a) is carried out, including, but not limited to, regulations limiting the total amount of time allocated for public comment on particular issues and for each individual speaker.

(c) This section is not applicable to closed sessions held pursuant to Section 11126.

(d) This section is not applicable to decisions regarding proceedings held pursuant to Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500), relating to administrative adjudication, or to the conduct of those proceedings.

(e) This section is not applicable to hearings conducted by the State Board of Control pursuant to Sections 13963 and 13963.1.

(f) This section is not applicable to agenda items which involve decisions of the Public Utilities Commission regarding adjudicatory hearings held pursuant to Chapter 9 (commencing with Section 1701) of Part 1 of Division 1 of the Public Utilities Code. For all other agenda items, the commission shall provide members of the public, other than those who have already participated in the proceedings underlying the agenda item, an opportunity to directly address the commission before or during the commission's consideration of the item.

SEC. 14. Section 11340.4 is added to the Government Code, to read:

11340.4. (a) The office is authorized and directed to do the following:

(1) Study the subject of administrative rulemaking in all its aspects.

(2) In the interest of fairness, uniformity, and the expedition of business, submit its suggestions to the various agencies.

(3) Report its recommendations to the Governor and Legislature at the commencement of each general session.

(b) All agencies of the state shall give the office ready access to their records and full information and reasonable assistance in any matter of research requiring recourse to them or to data within their knowledge or control. Nothing in this subdivision authorizes an agency to provide access to records required by statute to be kept confidential.

SEC. 15. Section 11340.5 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11340.5. (a) No state agency shall issue, utilize, enforce, or attempt to enforce any guideline, criterion, bulletin, manual, instruction, order, standard of general application, or other rule, which is a regulation as defined in subdivision (g) of Section 11342, unless the guideline, criterion, bulletin, manual, instruction, order, standard of general application, or other rule has been adopted as a regulation and filed with the Secretary of State pursuant to this chapter.

(b) If the office is notified of, or on its own, learns of the issuance, enforcement of, or use of, an agency guideline, criterion, bulletin, manual, instruction, order, standard of general application, or other rule that has not been adopted as a regulation and filed with the Secretary of State pursuant to this chapter, the office may issue a determination as to whether the guideline, criterion, bulletin, manual, instruction, order, standard of general application, or other rule, is a regulation as defined in subdivision (g) of Section 11342.

(c) The office shall do all of the following:

(1) File its determination upon issuance with the Secretary of State.



(2) Make its determination known to the agency, the Governor, and the Legislature.

(3) Publish its determination in the California Regulatory Notice Register within 15 days of the date of issuance.

(4) Make its determination available to the public and the courts.

(d) Any interested person may obtain judicial review of a given determination by filing a written petition requesting that the determination of the office be modified or set aside. A petition shall be filed with the court within 30 days of the date the determination is published.

(e) A determination issued by the office pursuant to this section shall not be considered by a court, or by an administrative agency in an adjudicatory proceeding if all of the following occurs:

(1) The court or administrative agency proceeding involves the party that sought the determination from the office.

(2) The proceeding began prior to the party's request for the office's determination.

(3) At issue in the proceeding is the question of whether the guideline, criterion, bulletin, manual, instruction, order, standard of general application, or other rule that is the legal basis for the adjudicatory action is a regulation as defined in subdivision (g) of Section 11342.

SEC. 15.1. Section 11342 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11342. In this chapter, unless otherwise specifically indicated, the following definitions apply:

(a) "Agency" and "state agency" do not include an agency in the judicial or legislative departments of the state government.

(b) "Office" means the Office of Administrative Law.

(c) "Order of repeal" means any resolution, order or other official act of a state agency that expressly repeals a regulation in whole or in part.

(d) "Performance standard" means a regulation that describes an objective with the criteria stated for achieving the objective.

(e) "Plain English" means language that can be interpreted by a person who has no more than an eighth grade level of proficiency in English.

(f) "Prescriptive standard" means a regulation that specifies the sole means of compliance with a performance standard by specific actions, measurements, or other quantifiable means.

(g) "Regulation" means every rule, regulation, order, or standard of general application or the amendment, supplement, or revision of any rule, regulation, order, or standard adopted by any state agency to implement, interpret, or make specific the law enforced or administered by it, or to govern its procedure, except one that relates only to the internal management of the state agency. "Regulation" does not mean or include legal rulings of counsel issued by the

Franchise Tax Board or State Board of Equalization, or any form prescribed by a state agency or any instructions relating to the use of the form, but this provision is not a limitation upon any requirement that a regulation be adopted pursuant to this part when one is needed to implement the law under which the form is issued.

(h) (1) "Small business" means a business activity in agriculture, general construction, special trade construction, retail trade, wholesale trade, services, transportation and warehousing, manufacturing, generation and transmission of electric power, or a health care facility, unless excluded in paragraph (2), that is both of the following:

- (A) Independently owned and operated.
- (B) Not dominant in its field of operation.

(2) "Small business" does not include the following professional and business activities:

(A) A financial institution including a bank, a trust, a savings and loan association, a thrift institution, a consumer finance company, a commercial finance company, an industrial finance company, a credit union, a mortgage and investment banker, a securities broker-dealer, or an investment adviser.

- (B) An insurance company, either stock or mutual.
- (C) A mineral, oil, or gas broker; a subdivider or developer.
- (D) A landscape architect, an architect, or a building designer.
- (E) An entity organized as a nonprofit institution.

(F) An entertainment activity or production, including a motion picture, a stage performance, a television or radio station, or a production company.

(G) A utility, a water company, or a power transmission company generating and transmitting more than 4.5 million kilowatt hours annually.

(H) A petroleum producer, a natural gas producer, a refiner, or a pipeline.

(I) A business activity exceeding the following annual gross receipts in the categories of:

- (i) Agriculture, one million dollars (\$1,000,000).
- (ii) General construction, nine million five hundred thousand dollars (\$9,500,000).
- (iii) Special trade construction, five million dollars (\$5,000,000).
- (iv) Retail trade, two million dollars (\$2,000,000).
- (v) Wholesale trade, nine million five hundred thousand dollars (\$9,500,000).
- (vi) Services, two million dollars (\$2,000,000).
- (vii) Transportation and warehousing, one million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000).

(J) A manufacturing enterprise exceeding 250 employees.

(K) A health care facility exceeding 150 beds or one million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000) in annual gross receipts.

SEC. 15.2. Section 11346.14 of the Government Code is repealed.

SEC. 15.3. Section 11346.2 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11346.2. Every agency subject to this chapter shall prepare, submit to the office with the notice of the proposed action as described in Section 11346.5, and make available to the public upon request, all of the following:

(a) A copy of the express terms of the proposed regulation.

(1) The agency shall draft the regulation in plain, straightforward language, avoiding technical terms as much as possible, and using a coherent and easily readable style. If the regulation affects small business, the agency shall draft the regulation in plain English, as defined in subdivision (e) of Section 11342. However, if it is not feasible to draft the regulation in plain English due to the technical nature of the regulation, the agency shall prepare a noncontrolling plain English summary of the regulation.

(2) The agency shall include a notation following the express terms of each regulation listing the specific statutes or other provisions of law authorizing the adoption of the regulation and listing the specific statutes or other provisions of law being implemented, interpreted, or made specific by the regulation.

(3) The agency shall use underline or italics to indicate additions to, and strikeout to indicate deletions from, the California Code of Regulations.

(b) An initial statement of reasons for proposing the adoption, amendment, or repeal of a regulation. This statement of reasons shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following:

(1) A description of the public problem, administrative requirement, or other condition or circumstance that each adoption, amendment, or repeal is intended to address.

(2) A statement of the specific purpose of each adoption, amendment, or repeal and the rationale for the determination by the agency that each adoption, amendment, or repeal is reasonably necessary to carry out the purpose for which it is proposed. Where the adoption or amendment of a regulation would mandate the use of specific technologies or equipment, a statement of the reasons why the agency believes these mandates or prescriptive standards are required.

(3) An identification of each technical, theoretical, and empirical study, report, or similar document, if any, upon which the agency relies in proposing the adoption, amendment, or repeal of a regulation.

(4) (A) A description of the alternatives to the regulation considered by the agency and the agency's reasons for rejecting those alternatives. In the case of a regulation that would mandate the use of specific technologies or equipment or prescribe specific actions or

procedures, the imposition of performance standards shall be considered as an alternative.

(B) A description of any alternatives the agency has identified that would lessen any adverse impact on small business. It is not the intent of this paragraph to require the agency to artificially construct alternatives or to justify why it has not identified alternatives.

(5) Facts, evidence, documents, testimony, or other evidence upon which the agency relies to support a finding that the action will not have a significant adverse economic impact on business.

(6) A department, board, or commission within the Environmental Protection Agency, the Resources Agency, or the Office of the State Fire Marshal shall describe its efforts, in connection with a proposed rulemaking action, to avoid unnecessary duplication or conflicts with federal regulations contained in the Code of Federal Regulations addressing the same issues. These agencies may adopt regulations different from federal regulations contained in the Code of Federal Regulations addressing the same issues upon a finding of one or more of the following justifications:

(A) The differing state regulations are authorized by law.

(B) The cost of differing state regulations is justified by the benefit to human health, public safety, public welfare, or the environment.

(c) A state agency that adopts or amends a regulation mandated by federal law or regulations, the provisions of which are identical to a previously adopted or amended federal regulation, shall be deemed to have complied with subdivision (b) if a statement to the effect that a federally mandated regulation or amendment to a regulation is being proposed, together with a citation to where an explanation of the provisions of the regulation can be found, is included in the notice of proposed adoption or amendment prepared pursuant to Section 11346.5. However, the agency shall comply fully with this chapter with respect to any provisions in the regulation that the agency proposes to adopt or amend that are different from the corresponding provisions of the federal regulation.

SEC. 15.5. Section 11346.6 of the Government Code is repealed.

SEC. 15.6. Section 11349.5 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11349.5. (a) To initiate a review of a decision by the office, the agency shall file a written Request for Review with the Governor's Legal Affairs Secretary within 10 days of receipt of the written opinion provided by the office pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 11349.3. The Request for Review shall include a complete statement as to why the agency believes the decision is incorrect and should be overruled. Along with the Request for Review, the agency shall submit all of the following:

(1) The office's written decision detailing the reasons for disapproval required by subdivision (b) of Section 11349.3.

(2) Copies of all regulations, notices, statements, and other documents which were submitted to the office.

(b) A copy of the agency's Request for Review shall be delivered to the office on the same day it is delivered to the Governor's office. The office shall file its written response to the agency's request with the Governor's Legal Affairs Secretary within 10 days and deliver a copy of its response to the agency on the same day it is delivered to the Governor's office.

(c) The Governor's office shall provide the requesting agency and the office with a written decision within 15 days of receipt of the response by the office to the agency's Request for Review. Upon receipt of the decision, the office shall publish in the California Regulatory Notice Register the agency's Request for Review, the office's response thereto, and the decision of the Governor's office.

(d) The time requirements set by subdivisions (a) and (b) may be shortened by the Governor's office for good cause.

(e) The Governor may overrule the decision of the office disapproving a proposed regulation, an order repealing an emergency regulation adopted pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 11346.1, or a decision refusing to allow the readoption of an emergency regulation pursuant to Section 11346.1. In that event, the office shall immediately transmit the regulation to the Secretary of State for filing.

(f) Upon overruling the decision of the office, the Governor shall immediately transmit to the Committees on Rules of both houses of the Legislature a statement of his or her reasons for overruling the decision of the office, along with copies of the adopting agency's initial statement of reasons issued pursuant to Section 11346.2 and the office's statement regarding the disapproval of a regulation issued pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 11349.3. The Governor's action and the reasons therefor shall be published in the California Regulatory Notice Register.

SEC. 15.7. Section 11349.9 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11349.9. (a) To initiate a review of the office's Notice of Repeal pursuant to Section 11349.8, the agency shall appeal the office's decision by filing a written Request for Review with the Governor's Legal Affairs Secretary within 10 days of receipt of the Notice of Repeal and written decision provided for by paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Section 11349.8. The Request for Review shall include a complete statement as to why the agency believes the decision is incorrect and should be overruled. Along with the Request for Review, the agency shall submit all of the following:

(1) The office's written opinion detailing the reasons for repeal required by paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Section 11349.8.

(2) Copies of all statements and other documents that were submitted to the office.

(b) A copy of the agency's Request for Review shall be delivered to the office on the same day it is delivered to the Governor's office. The office shall file its written response to the agency's request with the Governor's Legal Affairs Secretary within 10 days, and deliver a copy of its response to the agency on the same day it is delivered to the Governor's office.

(c) The Governor's office shall provide the requesting agency and the office with a written decision within 15 days of receipt of the response by the office to the agency's Request for Review. Upon receipt of the decision, the office shall publish in the California Regulatory Notice Register the agency's Request for Review, the office's response thereto, and the decision of the Governor's office.

(d) The time requirements set by subdivisions (a) and (b) may be shortened by the Governor's office for good cause.

(e) In the event the Governor overrules the decision of the office, the office shall immediately transmit the regulation to the Secretary of State for filing.

(f) Upon overruling the decision of the office, the Governor shall transmit to the rules committees of both houses of the Legislature a statement of the reasons for overruling the decision of the office.

SEC. 15.8. Section 11350 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11350. (a) Any interested person may obtain a judicial declaration as to the validity of any regulation by bringing an action for declaratory relief in the superior court in accordance with the Code of Civil Procedure. The right to judicial determination shall not be affected by the failure either to petition or to seek reconsideration of a petition filed pursuant to Section 11340.7 before the agency promulgating the regulations. The regulation may be declared to be invalid for a substantial failure to comply with this chapter, or, in the case of an emergency regulation or order to repeal, upon the ground that the facts recited in the statement do not constitute an emergency within the provisions of Section 11346.1.

(b) In addition to any other ground that may exist, a regulation may be declared invalid if either of the following exists:

(1) The agency's determination that the regulation is reasonably necessary to effectuate the purpose of the statute, court decision, or other provision of law that is being implemented, interpreted, or made specific by the regulation is not supported by substantial evidence.

(2) The agency declaration pursuant to paragraph (8) of subdivision (a) of Section 11346.5 is in conflict with substantial evidence in the record.

For purposes of this section, the record shall be deemed to consist of all material maintained in the file of the rulemaking proceeding as defined in Section 11347.3.

(c) The approval of a regulation by the office or the Governor's overruling of a decision of the office disapproving a regulation shall not be considered by a court in any action for declaratory relief brought with respect to a regulation.

SEC. 15.9. Section 11350 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11350. (a) Any interested person may obtain a judicial declaration as to the validity of any regulation by bringing an action for declaratory relief in the superior court in accordance with the Code of Civil Procedure. The right to judicial determination shall not be affected by the failure either to petition or to seek reconsideration of a petition filed pursuant to Section 11340.7 before the agency promulgating the regulations. The regulation may be declared to be invalid for a substantial failure to comply with this chapter, or, in the case of an emergency regulation or order to repeal, upon the ground that the facts recited in the statement do not constitute an emergency within the provisions of Section 11346.1.

(b) In addition to any other ground that may exist, a regulation may be declared invalid if either of the following exists:

(1) The agency's determination that the regulation is reasonably necessary to effectuate the purpose of the statute, court decision, or other provision of law that is being implemented, interpreted, or made specific by the regulation is not supported by substantial evidence.

(2) The agency declaration pursuant to paragraph (8) of subdivision (a) of Section 11346.5 is in conflict with substantial evidence in the record.

For purposes of this section, the record shall be deemed to consist of all material maintained in the file of the rulemaking proceeding as defined in Section 11347.3.

(c) (1) In addition to any other ground that may exist, a regulation shall be declared invalid if the regulation has not been made available to the public pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 11343.4. If the court determines that an agency has failed to mail written copies of new regulations to a person who would be affected by the regulation within 10 days after receipt of any written or oral requests for these copies, the court shall deem the regulation to be in violation of subdivision (b) of Section 11343.4 and shall invalidate the regulation.

(2) If a regulation has been declared invalid because of failure to comply with subdivision (b) of Section 11343.4, the adopting agency shall not be required to reinitiate adoption, review, and approval procedures for that regulation in accordance with this chapter. The regulation shall be deemed valid and enforceable upon the agency's compliance with the 30-day availability requirement specified in subdivision (b) of Section 11343.4.

(d) The approval of a regulation by the office or the Governor's overruling of a decision of the office disapproving a regulation shall not be considered by a court in any action for declaratory relief brought with respect to a regulation.

SEC. 16. An article heading is added immediately preceding Section 11370 to Chapter 4 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, to read:

Article 1. General Provisions

SEC. 16.5. Section 11370 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11370. Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340), Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 11370), Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 11400), and Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) constitute, and may be cited as, the Administrative Procedure Act.

SEC. 17. Section 11370.3 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11370.3. The director shall appoint and maintain a staff of full-time, and may appoint pro tempore part-time, administrative law judges qualified under Section 11502 which is sufficient to fill the needs of the various state agencies. The director shall also appoint any other technical and clerical personnel as may be required to perform the duties of the office. The director shall assign an administrative law judge for any proceeding arising under Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) and, upon request from any agency, may assign an administrative law judge to conduct other administrative proceedings not arising under that chapter and shall assign hearing reporters as required. Any administrative law judge or other employee so assigned shall be deemed an employee of the office and not of the agency to which he or she is assigned. When not engaged in hearing cases, administrative law judges may be assigned by the director to perform other duties vested in or required of the office, including those provided for in Section 11370.5.

SEC. 18. Section 11370.5 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11370.5. (a) The office is authorized and directed to study the subject of administrative adjudication in all its aspects; to submit its suggestions to the various agencies in the interests of fairness, uniformity and the expedition of business; and to report its recommendations to the Governor and Legislature at the commencement of each general session. All departments, agencies, officers, and employees of the state shall give the office ready access to their records and full information and reasonable assistance in any matter of research requiring recourse to them or to data within their knowledge or control. Nothing in this section authorizes an agency

to provide access to records required by statute to be kept confidential.

(b) The office may adopt rules and regulations to carry out the functions and duties of the office under the Administrative Procedure Act. The regulations are subject to Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340).

SEC. 19. An article heading is added immediately preceding Section 11371 to Chapter 4 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, to read:

#### Article 2. Medical Quality Hearing Panel

SEC. 19.5. Section 11371 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11371. (a) There is within the Office of Administrative Hearings a Medical Quality Hearing Panel, consisting of no fewer than five full-time administrative law judges. The administrative law judges shall have medical training as recommended by the Division of Medical Quality of the Medical Board of California and approved by the Director of the Office of Administrative Hearings.

(b) The director shall determine the qualifications of panel members, supervise their training, and coordinate the publication of a reporter of decisions pursuant to this section. The panel shall include only those persons specifically qualified and shall at no time constitute more than 25 percent of the total number of administrative law judges within the Office of Administrative Hearings. If the members of the panel do not have a full workload, they may be assigned work by the Director of the Office of Administrative Hearings. When the medically related case workload exceeds the capacity of the members of the panel, additional judges shall be requested to be added to the panels as appropriate. When this workload overflow occurs on a temporary basis, the Director of the Office of Administrative Hearings shall supply judges from the Office of Administrative Hearings to adjudicate the cases.

(c) The decisions of the administrative law judges of the panel, together with any court decisions reviewing those decisions, shall be published in a quarterly "Medical Discipline Report," to be funded from the Contingent Fund of the Medical Board of California.

(d) The administrative law judges of the panel shall have panels of experts available. The panels of experts shall be appointed by the Director of the Office of Administrative Hearings, with the advice of the Medical Board of California. These panels of experts may be called as witnesses by the administrative law judges of the panel to testify on the record about any matter relevant to a proceeding and subject to cross-examination by all parties, and Section 11430.30 does not apply in a proceeding under this section. The administrative law judge may award reasonable expert witness fees to any person or

persons serving on a panel of experts, which shall be paid from the Contingent Fund of the Medical Board of California.

(e) On or before April 1, 1997, the Medical Board of California shall prepare, in consultation with the Office of Administrative Hearings, an analysis and report that evaluates the effectiveness of the Medical Quality Hearing Panel since its creation. Among other things, the report shall analyze whether administrative adjudications against physicians have been expedited, the aging of cases at the office, whether administrative decisions and penalties ordered in the discipline of physicians have become more consistent, and whether the panels of the Division of Medical Quality have adopted more proposed decisions than prior to the creation of the panel. The board shall send a copy of its report to the Chairpersons of the Senate Committee on Business and Professions and the Assembly Committee on Health, to the Office of Administrative Hearings, and to the Director of Consumer Affairs.

(f) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 1999, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, which is enacted before January 1, 1999, deletes or extends that date.

SEC. 20. Article 3 (commencing with Section 11380) is added to Chapter 4 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, to read:

#### Article 3. State Agency Reports and Forms Appeals

11380. (a) (1) The office shall hear and render a decision on any appeal filed by a business, pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 14775, in the event the business contests the certification by a state agency head that reporting requirements meet established criteria and shall not be eliminated.

(2) Before a business may file an appeal with the office pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 14775, the business shall file a challenge to a form or report required by a state agency with that state agency. Within 60 days of filing the challenge with a state agency, the state agency shall either eliminate the form or report or provide written justification for its continued use.

(3) A business may appeal a state agency's written justification for the continued use of a form or report with the office.

(4) If a state agency fails to respond within 60 days of the filing of a challenge pursuant to paragraph (2), the business shall have an immediate right to file an appeal with the office.

(b) No later than January 1, 1996, the office shall adopt procedures governing the filing, hearing, and disposition of appeals. The procedures shall include, but shall not be limited to, provisions that assure that appeals are heard and decisions rendered by the office in a fair, impartial, and timely fashion.

(c) The office may charge appellants a reasonable fee to pay for costs it incurs in complying with this section.

SEC. 21. Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 11400) is added to Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, to read:

CHAPTER 4.5. ADMINISTRATIVE ADJUDICATION: GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. Preliminary Provisions

11400. (a) This chapter and Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) constitute the administrative adjudication provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act.

(b) A reference in any other statute or in a rule of court, executive order, or regulation, to a provision formerly found in Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) that is superseded by a provision of this chapter, means the applicable provision of this chapter.

11400.10. (a) This chapter is operative on July 1, 1997.

(b) This chapter is applicable to an adjudicative proceeding commenced on or after July 1, 1997.

(c) This chapter is not applicable to an adjudicative proceeding commenced before July 1, 1997, except an adjudicative proceeding conducted on a remand from a court or another agency on or after July 1, 1997.

11400.20. (a) Before, on, or after July 1, 1997, an agency may adopt interim or permanent regulations to govern an adjudicative proceeding under this chapter.

(b) Except as provided in Section 11351:

(1) Interim regulations need not comply with Article 5 (commencing with Section 11346) or Article 6 (commencing with Section 11349) of Chapter 3.5, but are governed by Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) in all other respects.

(2) Interim regulations expire on December 31, 1998, unless earlier terminated or replaced by or readopted as permanent regulations under paragraph (3). If on December 31, 1998, an agency has completed proceedings to replace or readopt interim regulations and has submitted permanent regulations for review by the Office of Administrative Law, but permanent regulations have not yet been filed with the Secretary of State, the interim regulations are extended until the date permanent regulations are filed with the Secretary of State or March 31, 1999, whichever is earlier.

(3) Permanent regulations are subject to all the provisions of Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340), except that if by December 31, 1998, an agency has submitted the regulations for review by the Office of Administrative Law, the regulations are not subject to review for necessity under Section 11349.1 or 11350.

## Article 2. Definitions

11405.10. Unless the provision or context requires otherwise, the definitions in this article govern the construction of this chapter.

11405.20. “Adjudicative proceeding” means an evidentiary hearing for determination of facts pursuant to which an agency formulates and issues a decision.

11405.30. “Agency” means a board, bureau, commission, department, division, office, officer, or other administrative unit, including the agency head, and one or more members of the agency head or agency employees or other persons directly or indirectly purporting to act on behalf of or under the authority of the agency head. To the extent it purports to exercise authority pursuant to this chapter, an administrative unit otherwise qualifying as an agency shall be treated as a separate agency even if the unit is located within or subordinate to another agency.

11405.40. “Agency head” means a person or body in which the ultimate legal authority of an agency is vested, and includes a person or body to which the power to act is delegated pursuant to authority to delegate the agency’s power to hear and decide.

11405.50. (a) “Decision” means an agency action of specific application that determines a legal right, duty, privilege, immunity, or other legal interest of a particular person.

(b) Nothing in this section limits any of the following:

- (1) The precedential effect of a decision under Section 11425.60.
- (2) The authority of an agency to make a declaratory decision pursuant to Article 14 (commencing with Section 11465.10).

11405.60. “Party” includes the agency that is taking action, the person to which the agency action is directed, and any other person named as a party or allowed to appear or intervene in the proceeding. If the agency that is taking action and the agency that is conducting the adjudicative proceeding are separate agencies, the agency that is taking action is a party and the agency that is conducting the adjudicative proceeding is not a party.

11405.70. “Person” includes an individual, partnership, corporation, governmental subdivision or unit of a governmental subdivision, or public or private organization or entity of any character.

11405.80. “Presiding officer” means the agency head, member of the agency head, administrative law judge, hearing officer, or other person who presides in an adjudicative proceeding.

## Article 3. Application of Chapter

11410.10. This chapter applies to a decision by an agency if, under the federal or state Constitution or a federal or state statute, an

evidentiary hearing for determination of facts is required for formulation and issuance of the decision.

11410.20. Except as otherwise expressly provided by statute:

- (a) This chapter applies to all agencies of the state.
- (b) This chapter does not apply to the Legislature, the courts or judicial branch, or the Governor or office of the Governor.

11410.30. (a) As used in this section, “local agency” means a county, city, district, public authority, public agency, or other political subdivision or public corporation in the state other than the state.

(b) This chapter does not apply to a local agency except to the extent the provisions are made applicable by statute.

(c) This chapter applies to an agency created or appointed by joint or concerted action of the state and one or more local agencies.

11410.40. Notwithstanding any other provision of this article, by regulation, ordinance, or other appropriate action, an agency may adopt this chapter or any of its provisions for the formulation and issuance of a decision, even though the agency or decision is exempt from application of this chapter.

11410.50. This chapter applies to an adjudicative proceeding required to be conducted under Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) unless the statutes relating to the proceeding provide otherwise.

#### Article 4. Governing Procedure

11415.10. (a) The governing procedure by which an agency conducts an adjudicative proceeding is determined by the statutes and regulations applicable to that proceeding. If no other governing procedure is provided by statute or regulation, an agency may conduct an adjudicative proceeding under the administrative adjudication provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act.

(b) This chapter supplements the governing procedure by which an agency conducts an adjudicative proceeding.

11415.20. A state statute or a federal statute or regulation applicable to a particular agency or decision prevails over a conflicting or inconsistent provision of this chapter.

11415.30. (a) To the extent necessary to avoid a loss or delay of funds or services from the federal government that would otherwise be available to the state, the Governor may do any of the following by executive order:

(1) Suspend, in whole or in part, any administrative adjudication provision of the Administrative Procedure Act.

(2) Adopt a rule of procedure that will avoid the loss or delay.

(b) The Governor shall rescind an executive order issued under this section as soon as it is no longer necessary to prevent the loss or delay of funds or services from the federal government.

(c) If an administrative adjudication provision is suspended or rule of procedure is adopted pursuant to this section, the Governor shall promptly report the suspension or adoption to the Legislature. The report shall include recommendations concerning any legislation that may be necessary to conform the provision to federal law.

11415.40. Except to the extent prohibited by another statute or regulation, a person may waive a right conferred on the person by the administrative adjudication provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act.

11415.50. (a) An agency may provide any appropriate procedure for a decision for which an adjudicative proceeding is not required.

(b) An adjudicative proceeding is not required for informal factfinding or an informal investigatory hearing, or a decision to initiate or not to initiate an investigation, prosecution, or other proceeding before the agency, another agency, or a court, whether in response to an application for an agency decision or otherwise.

11415.60. (a) An agency may formulate and issue a decision by settlement, pursuant to an agreement of the parties, without conducting an adjudicative proceeding. Subject to subdivision (c), the settlement may be on any terms the parties determine are appropriate. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no evidence of an offer of compromise or settlement made in settlement negotiations is admissible in an adjudicative proceeding or civil action, whether as affirmative evidence, by way of impeachment, or for any other purpose.

(b) A settlement may be made before or after issuance of an agency pleading, except that in an adjudicative proceeding to determine whether an occupational license should be revoked, suspended, limited, or conditioned, a settlement may not be made before issuance of the agency pleading. A settlement may be made before, during, or after the hearing.

(c) A settlement is subject to any necessary agency approval. An agency head may delegate the power to approve a settlement. The terms of a settlement may not be contrary to statute or regulation, except that the settlement may include sanctions the agency would otherwise lack power to impose.

#### Article 5. Alternative Dispute Resolution

11420.10. (a) An agency, with the consent of all the parties, may refer a dispute that is the subject of an adjudicative proceeding for resolution by any of the following means:

(1) Mediation by a neutral mediator.

(2) Binding arbitration by a neutral arbitrator. An award in a binding arbitration is subject to judicial review in the manner

provided in Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 1285) of Title 9 of Part 3 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

(3) Nonbinding arbitration by a neutral arbitrator. The arbitrator's decision in a nonbinding arbitration is final unless within 30 days after the arbitrator delivers the award to the agency head a party requests that the agency conduct a de novo adjudicative proceeding. If the decision in the de novo proceeding is not more favorable to the party electing the de novo proceeding, the party shall pay the costs and fees specified in Section 1141.21 of the Code of Civil Procedure insofar as applicable in the adjudicative proceeding.

(b) If another statute requires mediation or arbitration in an adjudicative proceeding, that statute prevails over this section.

(c) This section does not apply in an adjudicative proceeding to the extent an agency by regulation provides that this section is not applicable in a proceeding of the agency.

11420.20. (a) The Office of Administrative Hearings shall adopt and promulgate model regulations for alternative dispute resolution under this article. The model regulations govern alternative dispute resolution by an agency under this article, except to the extent the agency by regulation provides inconsistent rules or provides that the model regulations are not applicable in a proceeding of the agency.

(b) The model regulations shall include provisions for selection and compensation of a mediator or arbitrator, qualifications of a mediator or arbitrator, and confidentiality of the mediation or arbitration proceeding.

11420.30. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a communication made in alternative dispute resolution under this article is protected to the following extent:

(a) Anything said, any admission made, and any document prepared in the course of, or pursuant to, mediation under this article is a confidential communication, and a party to the mediation has a privilege to refuse to disclose and to prevent another from disclosing the communication, whether in an adjudicative proceeding, civil action, or other proceeding. This subdivision does not limit the admissibility of evidence if all parties to the proceedings consent.

(b) No reference to nonbinding arbitration proceedings, a decision of the arbitrator that is rejected by a party's request for a de novo adjudicative proceeding, the evidence produced, or any other aspect of the arbitration may be made in an adjudicative proceeding or civil action, whether as affirmative evidence, by way of impeachment, or for any other purpose.

(c) No mediator or arbitrator is competent to testify in a subsequent administrative or civil proceeding as to any statement, conduct, decision, or order occurring at, or in conjunction with, the alternative dispute resolution.

(d) Evidence otherwise admissible outside of alternative dispute resolution under this article is not inadmissible or protected from disclosure solely by reason of its introduction or use in alternative dispute resolution under this article.

#### Article 6. Administrative Adjudication Bill of Rights

11425.10. (a) The governing procedure by which an agency conducts an adjudicative proceeding is subject to all of the following requirements:

(1) The agency shall give the person to which the agency action is directed notice and an opportunity to be heard, including the opportunity to present and rebut evidence.

(2) The agency shall make available to the person to which the agency action is directed a copy of the governing procedure, including a statement whether Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) is applicable to the proceeding.

(3) The hearing shall be open to public observation as provided in Section 11425.20.

(4) The adjudicative function shall be separated from the investigative, prosecutorial, and advocacy functions within the agency as provided in Section 11425.30.

(5) The presiding officer is subject to disqualification for bias, prejudice, or interest as provided in Section 11425.40.

(6) The decision shall be in writing, be based on the record, and include a statement of the factual and legal basis of the decision as provided in Section 11425.50.

(7) A decision may not be relied on as precedent unless the agency designates and indexes the decision as precedent as provided in Section 11425.60.

(8) Ex parte communications shall be restricted as provided in Article 7 (commencing with Section 11430.10).

(9) Language assistance shall be made available as provided in Article 8 (commencing with Section 11435.05) by an agency described in Section 11018 or 11435.15.

(b) The requirements of this section apply to the governing procedure by which an agency conducts an adjudicative proceeding without further action by the agency, and prevail over a conflicting or inconsistent provision of the governing procedure, subject to Section 11415.20. The governing procedure by which an agency conducts an adjudicative proceeding may include provisions equivalent to, or more protective of the rights of the person to which the agency action is directed than, the requirements of this section.

11425.20. (a) A hearing shall be open to public observation. Nothing in this subdivision limits the authority of the presiding officer to order closure of a hearing or make other protective orders to the extent necessary or proper for any of the following purposes:

(1) To satisfy the United States Constitution, the California Constitution, federal or state statute, or other law, including but not limited to laws protecting privileged, confidential, or other protected information.

(2) To ensure a fair hearing in the circumstances of the particular case.

(3) To conduct the hearing, including the manner of examining witnesses, in a way that is appropriate to protect a minor witness or a witness with a developmental disability, as defined in Section 4512 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, from intimidation or other harm, taking into account the rights of all persons.

(b) To the extent a hearing is conducted by telephone, television, or other electronic means, subdivision (a) is satisfied if members of the public have an opportunity to do both of the following:

(1) At reasonable times, hear or inspect the agency's record, and inspect any transcript obtained by the agency.

(2) Be physically present at the place where the presiding officer is conducting the hearing.

(c) This section does not apply to a prehearing conference, settlement conference, or proceedings for alternative dispute resolution other than binding arbitration.

11425.30. (a) A person may not serve as presiding officer in an adjudicative proceeding in any of the following circumstances:

(1) The person has served as investigator, prosecutor, or advocate in the proceeding or its preadjudicative stage.

(2) The person is subject to the authority, direction, or discretion of a person who has served as investigator, prosecutor, or advocate in the proceeding or its preadjudicative stage.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a):

(1) A person may serve as presiding officer at successive stages of an adjudicative proceeding.

(2) A person who has participated only as a decisionmaker or as an advisor to a decisionmaker in a determination of probable cause or other equivalent preliminary determination in an adjudicative proceeding or its preadjudicative stage may serve as presiding officer in the proceeding.

(c) The provisions of this section governing separation of functions as to the presiding officer also govern separation of functions as to the agency head or other person or body to which the power to hear or decide in the proceeding is delegated.

11425.40. (a) The presiding officer is subject to disqualification for bias, prejudice, or interest in the proceeding.

(b) It is not alone or in itself grounds for disqualification, without further evidence of bias, prejudice, or interest, that the presiding officer:

(1) Is or is not a member of a racial, ethnic, religious, sexual, or similar group and the proceeding involves the rights of that group.

(2) Has experience, technical competence, or specialized knowledge of, or has in any capacity expressed a view on, a legal, factual, or policy issue presented in the proceeding.

(3) Has as a lawyer or public official participated in the drafting of laws or regulations or in the effort to pass or defeat laws or regulations, the meaning, effect, or application of which is in issue in the proceeding.

(c) The provisions of this section governing disqualification of the presiding officer also govern disqualification of the agency head or other person or body to which the power to hear or decide in the proceeding is delegated.

(d) An agency that conducts an adjudicative proceeding may provide by regulation for peremptory challenge of the presiding officer.

11425.50. (a) The decision shall be in writing and shall include a statement of the factual and legal basis for the decision.

(b) The statement of the factual basis for the decision may be in the language of, or by reference to, the pleadings. If the statement is no more than mere repetition or paraphrase of the relevant statute or regulation, the statement shall be accompanied by a concise and explicit statement of the underlying facts of record that support the decision. If the factual basis for the decision includes a determination based substantially on the credibility of a witness, the statement shall identify any specific evidence of the observed demeanor, manner, or attitude of the witness that supports the determination, and on judicial review the court shall give great weight to the determination to the extent the determination identifies the observed demeanor, manner, or attitude of the witness that supports it.

(c) The statement of the factual basis for the decision shall be based exclusively on the evidence of record in the proceeding and on matters officially noticed in the proceeding. The presiding officer's experience, technical competence, and specialized knowledge may be used in evaluating evidence.

(d) Nothing in this section limits the information that may be contained in the decision, including a summary of evidence relied on.

(e) A penalty may not be based on a guideline, criterion, bulletin, manual, instruction, order, standard of general application or other rule subject to Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) unless it has been adopted as a regulation pursuant to Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340).

11425.60. (a) A decision may not be expressly relied on as precedent unless it is designated as a precedent decision by the agency.

(b) An agency may designate as a precedent decision a decision or part of a decision that contains a significant legal or policy determination of general application that is likely to recur. Designation of a decision or part of a decision as a precedent decision

is not rulemaking and need not be done under Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340). An agency's designation of a decision or part of a decision, or failure to designate a decision or part of a decision, as a precedent decision is not subject to judicial review.

(c) An agency shall maintain an index of significant legal and policy determinations made in precedent decisions. The index shall be updated not less frequently than annually, unless no precedent decision has been designated since the last preceding update. The index shall be made available to the public by subscription, and its availability shall be publicized annually in the California Regulatory Notice Register.

(d) This section applies to decisions issued on or after July 1, 1997. Nothing in this section precludes an agency from designating as a precedent decision a decision issued before July 1, 1997.

#### Article 7. Ex Parte Communications

11430.10. (a) While the proceeding is pending there shall be no communication, direct or indirect, regarding any issue in the proceeding, to the presiding officer from an employee or representative of an agency that is a party or from an interested person outside the agency, without notice and opportunity for all parties to participate in the communication.

(b) Nothing in this section precludes a communication, including a communication from an employee or representative of an agency that is a party, made on the record at the hearing.

(c) For the purpose of this section, a proceeding is pending from the issuance of the agency's pleading, or from an application for an agency decision, whichever is earlier.

11430.20. A communication otherwise prohibited by Section 11430.10 is permissible in any of the following circumstances:

(a) The communication is required for disposition of an ex parte matter specifically authorized by statute.

(b) The communication concerns a matter of procedure or practice, including a request for a continuance, that is not in controversy.

11430.30. A communication otherwise prohibited by Section 11430.10 from an employee or representative of an agency that is a party to the presiding officer is permissible in any of the following circumstances:

(a) The communication is for the purpose of assistance and advice to the presiding officer from a person who has not served as investigator, prosecutor, or advocate in the proceeding or its preadjudicative stage. An assistant or advisor may evaluate the evidence in the record but shall not furnish, augment, diminish, or modify the evidence in the record.

(b) The communication is for the purpose of advising the presiding officer concerning a settlement proposal advocated by the advisor.

(c) The communication is for the purpose of advising the presiding officer concerning any of the following matters in an adjudicative proceeding that is nonprosecutorial in character:

(1) The advice involves a technical issue in the proceeding and the advice is necessary for, and is not otherwise reasonably available to, the presiding officer, provided the content of the advice is disclosed on the record and all parties are given an opportunity to address it in the manner provided in Section 11430.50.

(2) The advice involves an issue in a proceeding of the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, California Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, Delta Protection Commission, Water Resources Control Board, or a regional water quality control board.

11430.40. If, while the proceeding is pending but before serving as presiding officer, a person receives a communication of a type that would be in violation of this article if received while serving as presiding officer, the person, promptly after starting to serve, shall disclose the content of the communication on the record and give all parties an opportunity to address it in the manner provided in Section 11430.50.

11430.50. (a) If a presiding officer receives a communication in violation of this article, the presiding officer shall make all of the following a part of the record in the proceeding:

(1) If the communication is written, the writing and any written response of the presiding officer to the communication.

(2) If the communication is oral, a memorandum stating the substance of the communication, any response made by the presiding officer, and the identity of each person from whom the presiding officer received the communication.

(b) The presiding officer shall notify all parties that a communication described in this section has been made a part of the record.

(c) If a party requests an opportunity to address the communication within 10 days after receipt of notice of the communication:

(1) The party shall be allowed to comment on the communication.

(2) The presiding officer has discretion to allow the party to present evidence concerning the subject of the communication, including discretion to reopen a hearing that has been concluded.

11430.60. Receipt by the presiding officer of a communication in violation of this article may be grounds for disqualification of the presiding officer. If the presiding officer is disqualified, the portion of the record pertaining to the ex parte communication may be sealed by protective order of the disqualified presiding officer.

11430.70. (a) Subject to subdivision (b), the provisions of this article governing ex parte communications to the presiding officer also govern ex parte communications in an adjudicative proceeding to the agency head or other person or body to which the power to hear or decide in the proceeding is delegated.

(b) An ex parte communication to the agency head or other person or body to which the power to hear or decide in the proceeding is delegated is permissible in an individualized ratemaking proceeding if the content of the communication is disclosed on the record and all parties are given an opportunity to address it in the manner provided in Section 11430.50.

11430.80. (a) There shall be no communication, direct or indirect, while a proceeding is pending regarding the merits of any issue in the proceeding, between the presiding officer and the agency head or other person or body to which the power to hear or decide in the proceeding is delegated.

(b) This section does not apply where the agency head or other person or body to which the power to hear or decide in the proceeding is delegated serves as both presiding officer and agency head, or where the presiding officer does not issue a decision in the proceeding.

#### Article 8. Language Assistance

11435.05. As used in this article, "language assistance" means oral interpretation or written translation into English of a language other than English or of English into another language for a party or witness who cannot speak or understand English or who can do so only with difficulty.

11435.10. Nothing in this article limits the application or effect of Section 754 of the Evidence Code to interpretation for a deaf or hard-of-hearing party or witness in an adjudicative proceeding.

11435.15. (a) The following state agencies shall provide language assistance in adjudicative proceedings to the extent provided in this article:

Agricultural Labor Relations Board  
Department of Alcohol and Drug Abuse  
State Athletic Commission California  
Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board  
Board of Prison Terms  
State Board of Barbering and Cosmetology  
State Department of Developmental Services  
Public Employment Relations Board  
Franchise Tax Board  
State Department of Health Services  
Department of Housing and Community Development  
Department of Industrial Relations

State Department of Mental Health  
Department of Motor Vehicles  
Notary Public Section, Office of the Secretary of State  
Public Utilities Commission  
Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development  
State Department of Social Services  
Workers' Compensation Appeals Board  
Department of the Youth Authority  
Youthful Offender Parole Board  
Department of Insurance  
State Personnel Board  
California Board of Podiatric Medicine  
Board of Psychology

(b) Nothing in this section prevents an agency other than an agency listed in subdivision (a) from electing to adopt any of the procedures in this article, provided that any selection of an interpreter is subject to Section 11435.30.

(c) Nothing in this section prohibits an agency from providing an interpreter during a proceeding to which this chapter does not apply, including an informal factfinding or informal investigatory hearing.

(d) This article applies to an agency listed in subdivision (a) notwithstanding a general provision that this chapter does not apply to some or all of an agency's adjudicative proceedings.

11435.20. (a) The hearing, or any medical examination conducted for the purpose of determining compensation or monetary award, shall be conducted in English.

(b) If a party or the party's witness does not proficiently speak or understand English and before commencement of the hearing or medical examination requests language assistance, an agency subject to the language assistance requirement of this article shall provide the party or witness an interpreter.

11435.25. (a) The cost of providing an interpreter under this article shall be paid by the agency having jurisdiction over the matter if the presiding officer so directs, otherwise by the party at whose request the interpreter is provided.

(b) The presiding officer's decision to direct payment shall be based upon an equitable consideration of all the circumstances in each case, such as the ability of the party in need of the interpreter to pay.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, in a hearing before the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board or the Division of Workers' Compensation relating to workers' compensation claims, the payment of the costs of providing an interpreter shall be governed by the rules and regulations promulgated by the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board or the Administrative Director of the Division of Workers' Compensation, as appropriate.

11435.30. (a) The State Personnel Board shall establish, maintain, administer, and publish annually an updated list of certified administrative hearing interpreters it has determined meet the minimum standards in interpreting skills and linguistic abilities in languages designated pursuant to Section 11435.40. Any interpreter so listed may be examined by each employing agency to determine the interpreter's knowledge of the employing agency's technical program terminology and procedures.

(b) Court interpreters certified pursuant to Section 68562, and interpreters listed on the State Personnel Board's recommended lists of court and administrative hearing interpreters prior to July 1, 1993, shall be deemed certified for purposes of this section.

11435.35. (a) The State Personnel Board shall establish, maintain, administer, and publish annually, an updated list of certified medical examination interpreters it has determined meet the minimum standards in interpreting skills and linguistic abilities in languages designated pursuant to Section 11435.40.

(b) Court interpreters certified pursuant to Section 68562 and administrative hearing interpreters certified pursuant to Section 11435.30 shall be deemed certified for purposes of this section.

11435.40. (a) The State Personnel Board shall designate the languages for which certification shall be established under Sections 11435.30 and 11435.35. The languages designated shall include, but not be limited to, Spanish, Tagalog, Arabic, Cantonese, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, and Vietnamese until the State Personnel Board finds that there is an insufficient need for interpreting assistance in these languages.

(b) The language designations shall be based on the following:

(1) The language needs of non-English-speaking persons appearing before the administrative agencies, as determined by consultation with the agencies.

(2) The cost of developing a language examination.

(3) The availability of experts needed to develop a language examination.

(4) Other information the board deems relevant.

11435.45. (a) The State Personnel Board shall establish and charge fees for applications to take interpreter examinations and for renewal of certifications. The purpose of these fees is to cover the annual projected costs of carrying out this article. The fees may be adjusted each fiscal year by a percent that is equal to or less than the percent change in the California Necessities Index prepared by the Commission on State Finance.

(b) Each certified administrative hearing interpreter and each certified medical examination interpreter shall pay a fee, due on July 1 of each year, for the renewal of the certification. Court interpreters certified under Section 68562 shall not pay any fees required by this section.

(c) If the amount of money collected in fees is not sufficient to cover the costs of carrying out this article, the board shall charge and be reimbursed a pro rata share of the additional costs by the state agencies that conduct administrative hearings.

11435.50. The State Personnel Board may remove the name of a person from the list of certified interpreters if any of the following conditions occurs:

- (a) The person is deceased.
- (b) The person notifies the board that the person is unavailable for work.
- (c) The person does not submit a renewal fee as required by Section 11435.45.

11435.55. (a) An interpreter used in a hearing shall be certified pursuant to Section 11435.30. However, if an interpreter certified pursuant to Section 11435.30 cannot be present at the hearing, the hearing agency shall have discretionary authority to provisionally qualify and use another interpreter.

(b) An interpreter used in a medical examination shall be certified pursuant to Section 11435.35. However, if an interpreter certified pursuant to Section 11435.35 cannot be present at the medical examination, the physician provisionally may use another interpreter if that fact is noted in the record of the medical evaluation.

11435.60. Every agency subject to the language assistance requirement of this article shall advise each party of the right to an interpreter at the same time that each party is advised of the hearing date or medical examination. Each party in need of an interpreter shall also be encouraged to give timely notice to the agency conducting the hearing or medical examination so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

11435.65. (a) The rules of confidentiality of the agency, if any, that apply in an adjudicative proceeding shall apply to any interpreter in the hearing or medical examination, whether or not the rules so state.

(b) The interpreter shall not have had any involvement in the issues of the case prior to the hearing.

#### Article 9. General Procedural Provisions

11440.10. (a) The agency head may do any of the following with respect to a decision of the presiding officer or the agency:

- (1) Determine to review some but not all issues, or not to exercise any review.
- (2) Delegate its review authority to one or more persons.
- (3) Authorize review by one or more persons, subject to further review by the agency head.

(b) By regulation an agency may mandate review, or may preclude or limit review, of a decision of the presiding officer or the agency.

11440.20. Service of a writing on, or giving of a notice to, a person in a procedure provided in this chapter is subject to the following provisions:

(a) The writing or notice shall be delivered personally or sent by mail or other means to the person at the person's last known address or, if the person is a party with an attorney or other authorized representative of record in the proceeding, to the party's attorney or other authorized representative. If a party is required by statute or regulation to maintain an address with an agency, the party's last known address is the address maintained with the agency.

(b) Unless a provision specifies the form of mail, service or notice by mail may be by first-class mail, registered mail, or certified mail, by mail delivery service, by facsimile transmission if complete and without error, or by other electronic means as provided by regulation, in the discretion of the sender.

11440.30. (a) The presiding officer may conduct all or part of a hearing by telephone, television, or other electronic means if each participant in the hearing has an opportunity to participate in and to hear the entire proceeding while it is taking place and to observe exhibits.

(b) The presiding officer may not conduct all or part of a hearing by telephone, television, or other electronic means if a party objects.

11440.40. (a) In any proceeding under subdivision (h) or (i) of Section 12940, or Section 19572 or 19702, alleging conduct that constitutes sexual harassment, sexual assault, or sexual battery, evidence of specific instances of a complainant's sexual conduct with individuals other than the alleged perpetrator is subject to all of the following limitations:

(1) The evidence is not discoverable unless it is to be offered at a hearing to attack the credibility of the complainant as provided for under subdivision (b). This paragraph is intended only to limit the scope of discovery; it is not intended to affect the methods of discovery allowed by statute.

(2) The evidence is not admissible at the hearing unless offered to attack the credibility of the complainant as provided for under subdivision (b). Reputation or opinion evidence regarding the sexual behavior of the complainant is not admissible for any purpose.

(b) Evidence of specific instances of a complainant's sexual conduct with individuals other than the alleged perpetrator is presumed inadmissible absent an offer of proof establishing its relevance and reliability and that its probative value is not substantially outweighed by the probability that its admission will create substantial danger of undue prejudice or confuse the issue.

(c) As used in this section “complainant” means a person claiming to have been subjected to conduct that constitutes sexual harassment, sexual assault, or sexual battery.

11440.50. (a) This section applies in adjudicative proceedings of an agency if the agency by regulation provides that this section is applicable in the proceedings.

(b) The presiding officer shall grant a motion for intervention if all of the following conditions are satisfied:

(1) The motion is submitted in writing, with copies served on all parties named in the agency's pleading.

(2) The motion is made as early as practicable in advance of the hearing. If there is a prehearing conference, the motion shall be made in advance of the prehearing conference and shall be resolved at the prehearing conference.

(3) The motion states facts demonstrating that the applicant's legal rights, duties, privileges, or immunities will be substantially affected by the proceeding or that the applicant qualifies as an intervenor under a statute or regulation.

(4) The presiding officer determines that the interests of justice and the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceeding will not be impaired by allowing the intervention.

(c) If an applicant qualifies for intervention, the presiding officer may impose conditions on the intervenor's participation in the proceeding, either at the time that intervention is granted or at a subsequent time. Conditions may include the following:

(1) Limiting the intervenor's participation to designated issues in which the intervenor has a particular interest demonstrated by the motion.

(2) Limiting or excluding the use of discovery, cross-examination, and other procedures involving the intervenor so as to promote the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceeding.

(3) Requiring two or more intervenors to combine their presentations of evidence and argument, cross-examination, discovery, and other participation in the proceeding.

(4) Limiting or excluding the intervenor's participation in settlement negotiations.

(d) As early as practicable in advance of the hearing the presiding officer shall issue an order granting or denying the motion for intervention, specifying any conditions, and briefly stating the reasons for the order. The presiding officer may modify the order at any time, stating the reasons for the modification. The presiding officer shall promptly give notice of an order granting, denying, or modifying intervention to the applicant and to all parties.

(e) Whether the interests of justice and the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceedings will be impaired by allowing intervention is a determination to be made in the sole discretion, and based on the

knowledge and judgment at that time, of the presiding officer. The determination is not subject to administrative or judicial review.

(f) Nothing in this section precludes an agency from adopting a regulation that permits participation by a person short of intervention as a party, subject to Article 7 (commencing with Section 11430.10) of Chapter 4.5.

#### Article 10. Informal Hearing

11445.10. (a) Subject to the limitations in this article, an agency may conduct an adjudicative proceeding under the informal hearing procedure provided in this article.

(b) The Legislature finds and declares the following:

(1) The informal hearing procedure is intended to satisfy due process and public policy requirements in a manner that is simpler and more expeditious than hearing procedures otherwise required by statute, for use in appropriate circumstances.

(2) The informal hearing procedure provides a forum in the nature of a conference in which a party has an opportunity to be heard by the presiding officer.

(3) The informal hearing procedure provides a forum that may accommodate a hearing where by regulation or statute a member of the public may participate without appearing or intervening as a party.

11445.20. Subject to Section 11445.30, an agency may use an informal hearing procedure in any of the following proceedings, if in the circumstances its use does not violate another statute or the federal or state Constitution:

(a) A proceeding where there is no disputed issue of material fact.

(b) A proceeding where there is a disputed issue of material fact, if the matter is limited to any of the following:

(1) A monetary amount of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

(2) A disciplinary sanction against a student that does not involve expulsion from an academic institution or suspension for more than 10 days.

(3) A disciplinary sanction against an employee that does not involve discharge from employment, demotion, or suspension for more than 5 days.

(4) A disciplinary sanction against a licensee that does not involve an actual revocation of a license or an actual suspension of a license for more than five days. Nothing in this section precludes an agency from imposing a stayed revocation or a stayed suspension of a license in an informal hearing.

(c) A proceeding where, by regulation, the agency has authorized use of an informal hearing.

(d) A proceeding where an evidentiary hearing for determination of facts is not required by statute but where the agency determines the federal or state Constitution may require a hearing.

11445.30. (a) The notice of hearing shall state the agency's selection of the informal hearing procedure.

(b) Any objection of a party to use of the informal hearing procedure shall be made in the party's pleading.

(c) An objection to use of the informal hearing procedure shall be resolved by the presiding officer before the hearing on the basis of the pleadings and any written submissions in support of the pleadings. An objection to use of the informal hearing procedure in a disciplinary proceeding involving an occupational license shall be resolved in favor of the licensee.

11445.40. (a) Except as provided in this article, the hearing procedures otherwise required by statute for an adjudicative proceeding apply to an informal hearing.

(b) In an informal hearing the presiding officer shall regulate the course of the proceeding. The presiding officer shall permit the parties and may permit others to offer written or oral comments on the issues. The presiding officer may limit the use of witnesses, testimony, evidence, and argument, and may limit or eliminate the use of pleadings, intervention, discovery, prehearing conferences, and rebuttal.

11445.50. (a) The presiding officer may deny use of the informal hearing procedure, or may convert an informal hearing to a formal hearing after an informal hearing is commenced, if it appears to the presiding officer that cross-examination is necessary for proper determination of the matter and that the delay, burden, or complication due to allowing cross-examination in the informal hearing will be more than minimal.

(b) An agency, by regulation, may specify categories of cases in which cross-examination is deemed not necessary for proper determination of the matter under the informal hearing procedure. The presiding officer may allow cross-examination of witnesses in an informal hearing notwithstanding an agency regulation if it appears to the presiding officer that in the circumstances cross-examination is necessary for proper determination of the matter.

(c) The actions of the presiding officer under this section are not subject to judicial review.

11445.60. (a) If the presiding officer has reason to believe that material facts are in dispute, the presiding officer may require a party to state the identity of the witnesses or other sources through which the party would propose to present proof if the proceeding were converted to a formal or other applicable hearing procedure. If disclosure of a fact, allegation, or source is privileged or expressly prohibited by a regulation, statute, or the federal or state Constitution, the presiding officer may require the party to indicate

that confidential facts, allegations, or sources are involved, but not to disclose the confidential facts, allegations, or sources.

(b) If a party has reason to believe that essential facts must be obtained in order to permit an adequate presentation of the case, the party may inform the presiding officer regarding the general nature of the facts and the sources from which the party would propose to obtain the facts if the proceeding were converted to a formal or other applicable hearing procedure.

#### Article 11. Subpoenas

11450.05. (a) This article applies in an adjudicative proceeding required to be conducted under Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500).

(b) An agency may use the subpoena procedure provided in this article in an adjudicative proceeding not required to be conducted under Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500), in which case all the provisions of this article apply including, but not limited to, issuance of a subpoena at the request of a party or by the attorney of record for a party under Section 11450.20.

11450.10. (a) Subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum may be issued for attendance at a hearing and for production of documents at any reasonable time and place or at a hearing.

(b) The custodian of documents that are the subject of a subpoena duces tecum may satisfy the subpoena by delivery of the documents or a copy of the documents, or by making the documents available for inspection or copying, together with an affidavit in compliance with Section 1561 of the Evidence Code.

11450.20. (a) Subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum shall be issued by the agency or presiding officer at the request of a party, or by the attorney of record for a party, in accordance with Sections 1985 to 1985.4, inclusive, of the Code of Civil Procedure.

(b) The process extends to all parts of the state and shall be served in accordance with Sections 1987 and 1988 of the Code of Civil Procedure. A subpoena or subpoena duces tecum may also be delivered by certified mail return receipt requested or by messenger. Service by messenger shall be effected when the witness acknowledges receipt of the subpoena to the sender, by telephone, by mail, or in person, and identifies himself or herself either by reference to date of birth and driver's license number or Department of Motor Vehicles identification number, or the sender may verify receipt of the subpoena by obtaining other identifying information from the recipient. The sender shall make a written notation of the acknowledgment. A subpoena issued and acknowledged pursuant to this section has the same force and effect as a subpoena personally served. Failure to comply with a subpoena issued and acknowledged pursuant to this section may be punished as a contempt and the

subpoena may so state. A party requesting a continuance based upon the failure of a witness to appear at the time and place required for the appearance or testimony pursuant to a subpoena, shall prove that the party has complied with this section. The continuance shall only be granted for a period of time that would allow personal service of the subpoena and in no event longer than that allowed by law.

(c) No witness is obliged to attend unless the witness is a resident of the state at the time of service.

11450.30. (a) A person served with a subpoena or a subpoena duces tecum may object to its terms by a motion for a protective order, including a motion to quash.

(b) The objection shall be resolved by the presiding officer on terms and conditions that the presiding officer declares. The presiding officer may make another order that is appropriate to protect the parties or the witness from unreasonable or oppressive demands, including violations of the right to privacy.

(c) A subpoena or a subpoena duces tecum issued by the agency on its own motion may be quashed by the agency.

11450.40. A witness appearing pursuant to a subpoena or a subpoena duces tecum, other than a party, shall receive for the appearance the following mileage and fees, to be paid by the party at whose request the witness is subpoenaed:

(a) The same mileage allowed by law to a witness in a civil case.

(b) The same fees allowed by law to a witness in a civil case. This subdivision does not apply to an officer or employee of the state or a political subdivision of the state.

11450.50. (a) In the case of the production of a party to the record of a proceeding or of a person for whose benefit a proceeding is prosecuted or defended, the service of a subpoena on the witness is not required if written notice requesting the witness to attend, with the time and place of the hearing, is served on the attorney of the party or person.

(b) Service of written notice to attend under this section shall be made in the manner and is subject to the conditions provided in Section 1987 of the Code of Civil Procedure for service of written notice to attend in a civil action or proceeding.

#### Article 12. Enforcement of Orders and Sanctions

11455.10. A person is subject to the contempt sanction for any of the following in an adjudicative proceeding before an agency:

(a) Disobedience of or resistance to a lawful order.

(b) Refusal to take the oath or affirmation as a witness or thereafter refusal to be examined.

(c) Obstruction or interruption of the due course of the proceeding during a hearing or near the place of the hearing by any of the following:

(1) Disorderly, contemptuous, or insolent behavior toward the presiding officer while conducting the proceeding.

(2) Breach of the peace, boisterous conduct, or violent disturbance.

(3) Other unlawful interference with the process or proceedings of the agency.

(d) Violation of the prohibition of ex parte communications under Article 7 (commencing with Section 11430.10).

(e) Failure or refusal, without substantial justification, to comply with a deposition order, discovery request, subpoena, or other order of the presiding officer, or moving, without substantial justification, to compel discovery.

11455.20. (a) The presiding officer or agency head may certify the facts that justify the contempt sanction against a person to the superior court in and for the county where the proceeding is conducted. The court shall thereupon issue an order directing the person to appear before the court at a specified time and place, and then and there to show cause why the person should not be punished for contempt. The order and a copy of the certified statement shall be served on the person. Upon service of the order and a copy of the certified statement, the court has jurisdiction of the matter.

(b) The same proceedings shall be had, the same penalties may be imposed, and the person charged may purge the contempt in the same way, as in the case of a person who has committed a contempt in the trial of a civil action before a superior court.

11455.30. (a) The presiding officer may order a party, the party's attorney or other authorized representative, or both, to pay reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees, incurred by another party as a result of bad faith actions or tactics that are frivolous or solely intended to cause unnecessary delay as defined in Section 128.5 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

(b) The order, or denial of an order, is subject to judicial review in the same manner as a decision in the proceeding. The order is enforceable in the same manner as a money judgment or by the contempt sanction.

### Article 13. Emergency Decision

11460.10. Subject to the limitations in this article, an agency may conduct an adjudicative proceeding under the emergency decision procedure provided in this article.

11460.20. (a) An agency may issue an emergency decision for temporary, interim relief under this article if the agency has adopted a regulation that provides that the agency may use the procedure provided in this article.

(b) The regulation shall elaborate the application of the provisions of this article to an emergency decision by the agency, including all of the following:

(1) Define the specific circumstances in which an emergency decision may be issued under this article.

(2) State the nature of the temporary, interim relief that the agency may order.

(3) Prescribe the procedures that will be available before and after issuance of an emergency decision under this article. The procedures may be more protective of the person to which the agency action is directed than those provided in this article.

(c) This article does not apply to an emergency decision, including a cease and desist order or an interim or temporary suspension order, issued pursuant to other express statutory authority.

11460.30. (a) An agency may only issue an emergency decision under this article in a situation involving an immediate danger to the public health, safety, or welfare that requires immediate agency action.

(b) An agency may only take action under this article that is necessary to prevent or avoid the immediate danger to the public health, safety, or welfare that justifies issuance of an emergency decision.

(c) An emergency decision issued under this article is limited to temporary, interim relief. The temporary, interim relief is subject to judicial review under Section 11460.80, and the underlying issue giving rise to the temporary, interim relief is subject to an adjudicative proceeding pursuant to Section 11460.60.

11460.40. (a) Before issuing an emergency decision under this article, the agency shall, if practicable, give the person to which the agency action is directed notice and an opportunity to be heard.

(b) Notice and hearing under this section may be oral or written, including notice and hearing by telephone, facsimile transmission, or other electronic means, as the circumstances permit. The hearing may be conducted in the same manner as an informal hearing.

11460.50. (a) The agency shall issue an emergency decision, including a brief explanation of the factual and legal basis and reasons for the emergency decision, to justify the determination of an immediate danger and the agency's emergency decision to take the specific action.

(b) The agency shall give notice to the extent practicable to the person to which the agency action is directed. The emergency decision is effective when issued or as provided in the decision.

11460.60. (a) After issuing an emergency decision under this article for temporary, interim relief, the agency shall conduct an adjudicative proceeding under a formal, informal, or other

applicable hearing procedure to resolve the underlying issues giving rise to the temporary, interim relief.

(b) The agency shall commence an adjudicative proceeding under another procedure within 10 days after issuing an emergency decision under this article, notwithstanding the pendency of proceedings for judicial review of the emergency decision.

11460.70. The agency record consists of any documents concerning the matter that were considered or prepared by the agency. The agency shall maintain these documents as its official record.

11460.80. (a) On issuance of an emergency decision under this article, the person to which the agency action is directed may obtain judicial review of the decision in the manner provided in this section without exhaustion of administrative remedies.

(b) Judicial review under this section shall be pursuant to Section 1094.5 of the Code of Civil Procedure, subject to the following provisions:

(1) The hearing shall be on the earliest day that the business of the court will admit of, but not later than 15 days after service of the petition on the agency.

(2) Where it is claimed that the findings are not supported by the evidence, abuse of discretion is established if the court determines that the findings are not supported by substantial evidence in the light of the whole record.

(3) A party, on written request to another party, before the proceedings for review and within 10 days after issuance of the emergency decision, is entitled to appropriate discovery.

(4) The relief that may be ordered on judicial review is limited to a stay of the emergency decision.

#### Article 14. Declaratory Decision

11465.10. Subject to the limitations in this article, an agency may conduct an adjudicative proceeding under the declaratory decision procedure provided in this article.

11465.20. (a) A person may apply to an agency for a declaratory decision as to the applicability to specified circumstances of a statute, regulation, or decision within the primary jurisdiction of the agency.

(b) The agency in its discretion may issue a declaratory decision in response to the application. The agency shall not issue a declaratory decision if any of the following applies:

(1) Issuance of the decision would be contrary to a regulation adopted under this article.

(2) The decision would substantially prejudice the rights of a person who would be a necessary party and who does not consent in writing to the determination of the matter by a declaratory decision proceeding.

(3) The decision involves a matter that is the subject of pending administrative or judicial proceedings.

(c) An application for a declaratory decision is not required for exhaustion of the applicant's administrative remedies for purposes of judicial review.

11465.30. Within 30 days after receipt of an application for a declaratory decision, an agency shall give notice of the application to all persons to which notice of an adjudicative proceeding is otherwise required, and may give notice to any other person.

11465.40. The provisions of a formal, informal, or other applicable hearing procedure do not apply to an agency proceeding for a declaratory decision except to the extent provided in this article or to the extent the agency so provides by regulation or order.

11465.50. (a) Within 60 days after receipt of an application for a declaratory decision, an agency shall do one of the following, in writing:

(1) Issue a decision declaring the applicability of the statute, regulation, or decision in question to the specified circumstances.

(2) Set the matter for specified proceedings.

(3) Agree to issue a declaratory decision by a specified time.

(4) Decline to issue a declaratory decision, stating in writing the reasons for its action. Agency action under this paragraph is not subject to judicial review.

(b) A copy of the agency's action under subdivision (a) shall be served promptly on the applicant and any other party.

(c) If an agency has not taken action under subdivision (a) within 60 days after receipt of an application for a declaratory decision, the agency is considered to have declined to issue a declaratory decision on the matter.

11465.60. (a) A declaratory decision shall contain the names of all parties to the proceeding, the particular facts on which it is based, and the reasons for its conclusion.

(b) A declaratory decision has the same status and binding effect as any other decision issued by the agency in an adjudicative proceeding.

11465.70. (a) The Office of Administrative Hearings shall adopt and promulgate model regulations under this article that are consistent with the public interest and with the general policy of this article to facilitate and encourage agency issuance of reliable advice. The model regulations shall provide for all of the following:

(1) A description of the classes of circumstances in which an agency will not issue a declaratory decision.

(2) The form, contents, and filing of an application for a declaratory decision.

(3) The procedural rights of a person in relation to an application.

(4) The disposition of an application.

(b) The regulations adopted by the Office of Administrative Hearings under this article apply in an adjudicative proceeding unless an agency adopts its own regulations to govern declaratory decisions of the agency.

(c) This article does not apply in an adjudicative proceeding to the extent an agency by regulation provides inconsistent rules or provides that this article is not applicable in a proceeding of the agency.

#### Article 15. Conversion of Proceeding

11470.10. (a) Subject to any applicable regulation adopted under Section 11470.50, at any point in an agency proceeding the presiding officer or other agency official responsible for the proceeding:

(1) May convert the proceeding to another type of agency proceeding provided for by statute if the conversion is appropriate, is in the public interest, and does not substantially prejudice the rights of a party.

(2) Shall convert the proceeding to another type of agency proceeding provided for by statute, if required by regulation or statute.

(b) A proceeding of one type may be converted to a proceeding of another type only on notice to all parties to the original proceeding.

11470.20. If the presiding officer or other agency official responsible for the original proceeding would not have authority over the new proceeding to which it is to be converted, the agency head shall appoint a successor to preside over or be responsible for the new proceeding.

11470.30. To the extent practicable and consistent with the rights of parties and the requirements of this article relating to the new proceeding, the record of the original agency proceeding shall be used in the new agency proceeding.

11470.40. After a proceeding is converted from one type to another, the presiding officer or other agency official responsible for the new proceeding shall do all of the following:

(a) Give additional notice to parties or other persons necessary to satisfy the statutory requirements relating to the new proceeding.

(b) Dispose of the matters involved without further proceedings if sufficient proceedings have already been held to satisfy the statutory requirements relating to the new proceeding.

(c) Conduct or cause to be conducted any additional proceedings necessary to satisfy the statutory requirements relating to the new proceeding, and allow the parties a reasonable time to prepare for the new proceeding.

11470.50. An agency may adopt regulations to govern the conversion of one type of proceeding to another. The regulations may include an enumeration of the factors to be considered in

determining whether and under what circumstances one type of proceeding will be converted to another.

SEC. 22. The heading of Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code is amended to read:

CHAPTER 5. ADMINISTRATIVE ADJUDICATION: FORMAL HEARING

SEC. 23. Section 11500 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11500. In this chapter unless the context or subject matter otherwise requires:

(a) "Agency" includes the state boards, commissions, and officers to which this chapter is made applicable by law, except that wherever the word "agency" alone is used the power to act may be delegated by the agency, and wherever the words "agency itself" are used the power to act shall not be delegated unless the statutes relating to the particular agency authorize the delegation of the agency's power to hear and decide.

(b) "Party" includes the agency, the respondent, and any person, other than an officer or an employee of the agency in his or her official capacity, who has been allowed to appear or participate in the proceeding.

(c) "Respondent" means any person against whom an accusation is filed pursuant to Section 11503 or against whom a statement of issues is filed pursuant to Section 11504.

(d) "Administrative law judge" means an individual qualified under Section 11502.

(e) "Agency member" means any person who is a member of any agency to which this chapter is applicable and includes any person who himself or herself constitutes an agency.

SEC. 24. Section 11501 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11501. (a) This chapter applies to any agency as determined by the statutes relating to that agency.

(b) The enumerated agencies referred to in Section 11500 are:

- (1) Accountancy, State Board of
- (2) Air Resources Board, State
- (3) Alcohol and Drug Programs, State Department of
- (4) Architectural Examiners, California Board of
- (5) Attorney General
- (6) Auctioneer Commission, Board of Governors of
- (7) Automotive Repair, Bureau of
- (8) Barbering and Cosmetology, State Board of
- (9) Behavioral Science Examiners, Board of
- (10) Boating and Waterways, Department of
- (11) Cancer Advisory Council

- (12) Cemetery Board
- (13) Chiropractic Examiners, Board of
- (14) Security and Investigative Services, Bureau of
- (15) Community Colleges, Board of Governors of the California
- (16) Conservation, Department of
- (17) Consumer Affairs, Department of
- (18) Contractors, State License Board
- (19) Corporations, Commissioner of
- (20) Court Reporters Board of California
- (21) Dental Examiners of California, Board of
- (22) Education, State Department of
- (23) Electronic and Appliance Repair, Bureau of
- (24) Engineers and Land Surveyors, State Board of Registration for Professional
- (25) Fair Political Practices Commission
- (26) Fire Marshal, State
- (27) Food and Agriculture, Director of
- (28) Forestry and Fire Protection, Department of
- (29) Funeral Directors and Embalmers, State Board of
- (30) Geologists and Geophysicists, State Board of Registration for
- (31) Guide Dogs for the Blind, State Board of
- (32) Health Services, State Department of
- (33) Highway Patrol, Department of the California
- (34) Home Furnishings and Thermal Insulation, Bureau of
- (35) Horse Racing Board, California
- (36) Housing and Community Development, Department of
- (37) Insurance Commissioner
- (38) Labor Commissioner
- (39) Landscape Architects, State Board of
- (40) Medical Board of California, Medical Quality Review Committees and Examining Committees
- (41) Motor Vehicles, Department of
- (42) Nursing, Board of Registered
- (43) Nursing Home Administrators, Board of Examiners of
- (44) Optometry, State Board of
- (45) Osteopathic Medical Board of California
- (46) Pharmacy, California State Board of
- (47) Podiatric Medicine, Board of
- (48) Psychology, Board of
- (49) Public Employees' Retirement System, Board of Administration of the
- (50) Real Estate, Department of
- (51) San Francisco, San Pablo and Suisun, Board of Pilot Commissioners for the Bays of
- (52) Savings and Loan Commissioner
- (53) School Districts
- (54) Secretary of State, Office of

- (55) Social Services, State Department of
- (56) Statewide Health Planning and Development, Office of
- (57) Structural Pest Control Board
- (58) Tax Preparers Program
- (59) Teacher Credentialing, Commission on
- (60) Teachers' Retirement System, State
- (61) Transportation, Department of, acting pursuant to the State Aeronautics Act

(62) Veterinary Medical Board

(63) Vocational Nurse and Psychiatric Technician Examiners of the State of California, Board of

(c) This section shall become inoperative on July 1, 1997, and, as of January 1, 1998, is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that becomes operative on or before January 1, 1998, deletes or extends the dates on which it becomes inoperative and is repealed.

SEC. 24.5. Section 11501 is added to the Government Code, to read:

11501. (a) This chapter applies to any agency as determined by the statutes relating to that agency.

(b) This chapter applies to an adjudicative proceeding of an agency created on or after July 1, 1997, unless the statutes relating to the proceeding provide otherwise.

(c) Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 11400) applies to an adjudicative proceeding required to be conducted under this chapter, unless the statutes relating to the proceeding provide otherwise.

SEC. 25. Section 11501.5 of the Government Code is repealed.

SEC. 26. Section 11502 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11502. (a) All hearings of state agencies required to be conducted under this chapter shall be conducted by administrative law judges on the staff of the Office of Administrative Hearings. This subdivision applies to a hearing required to be conducted under this chapter that is conducted under the informal hearing or emergency decision procedure provided in Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 11400).

(b) The Director of the Office of Administrative Hearings has power to appoint a staff of administrative law judges for the office as provided in Section 11370.3. Each administrative law judge shall have been admitted to practice law in this state for at least five years immediately preceding his or her appointment and shall possess any additional qualifications established by the State Personnel Board for the particular class of position involved.

SEC. 27. Section 11502.1 of the Government Code is repealed.

SEC. 28. Section 11505 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11505. (a) Upon the filing of the accusation the agency shall serve a copy thereof on the respondent as provided in subdivision (c). The agency may include with the accusation any information which it deems appropriate, but it shall include a post card or other form entitled Notice of Defense which, when signed by or on behalf of the respondent and returned to the agency, will acknowledge service of the accusation and constitute a notice of defense under Section 11506. The copy of the accusation shall include or be accompanied by (1) a statement that respondent may request a hearing by filing a notice of defense as provided in Section 11506 within 15 days after service upon the respondent of the accusation, and that failure to do so will constitute a waiver of the respondent's right to a hearing, and (2) copies of Sections 11507.5, 11507.6, and 11507.7.

(b) The statement to respondent shall be substantially in the following form:

Unless a written request for a hearing signed by or on behalf of the person named as respondent in the accompanying accusation is delivered or mailed to the agency within 15 days after the accusation was personally served on you or mailed to you, (here insert name of agency) may proceed upon the accusation without a hearing. The request for a hearing may be made by delivering or mailing the enclosed form entitled Notice of Defense, or by delivering or mailing a notice of defense as provided by Section 11506 of the Government Code to: (here insert name and address of agency). You may, but need not, be represented by counsel at any or all stages of these proceedings.

If you desire the names and addresses of witnesses or an opportunity to inspect and copy the items mentioned in Section 11507.6 of the Government Code in the possession, custody or control of the agency, you may contact: (here insert name and address of appropriate person).

The hearing may be postponed for good cause. If you have good cause, you are obliged to notify the agency or, if an administrative law judge has been assigned to the hearing, the Office of Administrative Hearings, within 10 working days after you discover the good cause. Failure to give notice within 10 days will deprive you of a postponement.

(c) The accusation and all accompanying information may be sent to the respondent by any means selected by the agency. But no order adversely affecting the rights of the respondent shall be made by the agency in any case unless the respondent shall have been served personally or by registered mail as provided herein, or shall have filed a notice of defense or otherwise appeared. Service may be proved in the manner authorized in civil actions. Service by registered mail shall be effective if a statute or agency rule requires the respondent to file the respondent's address with the agency and to notify the

agency of any change, and if a registered letter containing the accusation and accompanying material is mailed, addressed to the respondent at the latest address on file with the agency.

SEC. 29. Section 11506 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11506. (a) Within 15 days after service of the accusation the respondent may file with the agency a notice of defense in which the respondent may:

(1) Request a hearing.

(2) Object to the accusation upon the ground that it does not state acts or omissions upon which the agency may proceed.

(3) Object to the form of the accusation on the ground that it is so indefinite or uncertain that the respondent cannot identify the transaction or prepare a defense.

(4) Admit the accusation in whole or in part.

(5) Present new matter by way of defense.

(6) Object to the accusation upon the ground that, under the circumstances, compliance with the requirements of a regulation would result in a material violation of another regulation enacted by another department affecting substantive rights.

(b) Within the time specified respondent may file one or more notices of defense upon any or all of these grounds but all of these notices shall be filed within that period unless the agency in its discretion authorizes the filing of a later notice.

(c) The respondent shall be entitled to a hearing on the merits if the respondent files a notice of defense, and the notice shall be deemed a specific denial of all parts of the accusation not expressly admitted. Failure to file a notice of defense shall constitute a waiver of respondent's right to a hearing, but the agency in its discretion may nevertheless grant a hearing. Unless objection is taken as provided in paragraph (3) of subdivision (a), all objections to the form of the accusation shall be deemed waived.

(d) The notice of defense shall be in writing signed by or on behalf of the respondent and shall state the respondent's mailing address. It need not be verified or follow any particular form.

(e) As used in this section, "file," "files," "filed," or "filing" means "delivered or mailed" to the agency as provided in Section 11505.

SEC. 30. Section 11507.3 is added to the Government Code, to read:

11507.3. (a) When proceedings that involve a common question of law or fact are pending, the administrative law judge on the judge's own motion or on motion of a party may order a joint hearing of any or all the matters at issue in the proceedings. The administrative law judge may order all the proceedings consolidated and may make orders concerning the procedure that may tend to avoid unnecessary costs or delay.

(b) The administrative law judge on the judge's own motion or on motion of a party, in furtherance of convenience or to avoid prejudice or when separate hearings will be conducive to expedition and economy, may order a separate hearing of any issue, including an issue raised in the notice of defense, or of any number of issues.

SEC. 31. Section 11507.6 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11507.6. After initiation of a proceeding in which a respondent or other party is entitled to a hearing on the merits, a party, upon written request made to another party, prior to the hearing and within 30 days after service by the agency of the initial pleading or within 15 days after the service of an additional pleading, is entitled to (1) obtain the names and addresses of witnesses to the extent known to the other party, including, but not limited to, those intended to be called to testify at the hearing, and (2) inspect and make a copy of any of the following in the possession or custody or under the control of the other party:

(a) A statement of a person, other than the respondent, named in the initial administrative pleading, or in any additional pleading, when it is claimed that the act or omission of the respondent as to this person is the basis for the administrative proceeding;

(b) A statement pertaining to the subject matter of the proceeding made by any party to another party or person;

(c) Statements of witnesses then proposed to be called by the party and of other persons having personal knowledge of the acts, omissions or events which are the basis for the proceeding, not included in (a) or (b) above;

(d) All writings, including, but not limited to, reports of mental, physical and blood examinations and things which the party then proposes to offer in evidence;

(e) Any other writing or thing which is relevant and which would be admissible in evidence;

(f) Investigative reports made by or on behalf of the agency or other party pertaining to the subject matter of the proceeding, to the extent that these reports (1) contain the names and addresses of witnesses or of persons having personal knowledge of the acts, omissions or events which are the basis for the proceeding, or (2) reflect matters perceived by the investigator in the course of his or her investigation, or (3) contain or include by attachment any statement or writing described in (a) to (e), inclusive, or summary thereof.

For the purpose of this section, "statements" include written statements by the person signed or otherwise authenticated by him or her, stenographic, mechanical, electrical or other recordings, or transcripts thereof, of oral statements by the person, and written reports or summaries of these oral statements.

Nothing in this section shall authorize the inspection or copying of any writing or thing which is privileged from disclosure by law or otherwise made confidential or protected as the attorney's work product.

SEC. 32. Section 11507.7 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11507.7. (a) Any party claiming the party's request for discovery pursuant to Section 11507.6 has not been complied with may serve and file with the administrative law judge a motion to compel discovery, naming as respondent the party refusing or failing to comply with Section 11507.6. The motion shall state facts showing the respondent party failed or refused to comply with Section 11507.6, a description of the matters sought to be discovered, the reason or reasons why the matter is discoverable under that section, that a reasonable and good faith attempt to contact the respondent for an informal resolution of the issue has been made, and the ground or grounds of respondent's refusal so far as known to the moving party.

(b) The motion shall be served upon respondent party and filed within 15 days after the respondent party first evidenced failure or refusal to comply with Section 11507.6 or within 30 days after request was made and the party has failed to reply to the request, or within another time provided by stipulation, whichever period is longer.

(c) The hearing on the motion to compel discovery shall be held within 15 days after the motion is made, or a later time that the administrative law judge may on the judge's own motion for good cause determine. The respondent party shall have the right to serve and file a written answer or other response to the motion before or at the time of the hearing.

(d) Where the matter sought to be discovered is under the custody or control of the respondent party and the respondent party asserts that the matter is not a discoverable matter under the provisions of Section 11507.6, or is privileged against disclosure under those provisions, the administrative law judge may order lodged with it matters provided in subdivision (b) of Section 915 of the Evidence Code and examine the matters in accordance with its provisions.

(e) The administrative law judge shall decide the case on the matters examined in camera, the papers filed by the parties, and such oral argument and additional evidence as the administrative law judge may allow.

(f) Unless otherwise stipulated by the parties, the administrative law judge shall no later than 15 days after the hearing make its order denying or granting the motion. The order shall be in writing setting forth the matters the moving party is entitled to discover under Section 11507.6. A copy of the order shall forthwith be served by mail by the administrative law judge upon the parties. Where the order grants the motion in whole or in part, the order shall not become effective until 10 days after the date the order is served. Where the

order denies relief to the moving party, the order shall be effective on the date it is served.

SEC. 33. Section 11508 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11508. (a) The agency shall consult the office, and subject to the availability of its staff, shall determine the time and place of hearing. The hearing shall be held in Oakland if the transaction occurred or the respondent resides within the First or Sixth Appellate District, in the County of Los Angeles if the transaction occurred or the respondent resides within the Second or Fourth Appellate District other than the County of Imperial or San Diego, in the County of Sacramento if the transaction occurred or the respondent resides within the Third or Fifth Appellate District, and in the County of San Diego if the transaction occurred or the respondent resides within the Fourth Appellate District in the County of Imperial or San Diego.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a):

(1) If the transaction occurred in a district other than that of respondent's residence, the agency may select the county appropriate for either district.

(2) The agency may select a different place nearer the place where the transaction occurred or the respondent resides.

(3) The parties by agreement may select any place within the state.

(c) The respondent may move for, and the administrative law judge has discretion to grant or deny, a change in the place of the hearing. A motion for a change in the place of the hearing shall be made within 10 days after service of the notice of hearing on the respondent.

SEC. 34. Section 11509 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11509. The agency shall deliver or mail a notice of hearing to all parties at least 10 days prior to the hearing. The hearing shall not be prior to the expiration of the time within which the respondent is entitled to file a notice of defense.

The notice to respondent shall be substantially in the following form but may include other information:

You are hereby notified that a hearing will be held before [here insert name of agency] at [here insert place of hearing] on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_, 19\_\_\_, at the hour of \_\_\_, upon the charges made in the accusation served upon you. If you object to the place of hearing, you must notify the presiding officer within 10 days after this notice is served on you. Failure to notify the presiding officer within 10 days will deprive you of a change in the place of the hearing. You may be present at the hearing. You have the right to be represented by an attorney at your own expense. You are not entitled to the appointment of an attorney to represent you at public expense.

You are entitled to represent yourself without legal counsel. You may present any relevant evidence, and will be given full opportunity to cross-examine all witnesses testifying against you. You are entitled to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of books, documents or other things by applying to [here insert appropriate office of agency].

SEC. 35. Section 11510 of the Government Code is repealed.

SEC. 36. Section 11511 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11511. On verified petition of any party, an administrative law judge or, if an administrative law judge has not been appointed, an agency may order that the testimony of any material witness residing within or without the state be taken by deposition in the manner prescribed by law for depositions in civil actions. The petition shall set forth the nature of the pending proceeding; the name and address of the witness whose testimony is desired; a showing of the materiality of the testimony; a showing that the witness will be unable or can not be compelled to attend; and shall request an order requiring the witness to appear and testify before an officer named in the petition for that purpose. The petitioner shall serve notice of hearing and a copy of the petition on the other parties at least 10 days before the hearing. Where the witness resides outside the state and where the administrative law judge or agency has ordered the taking of the testimony by deposition, the agency shall obtain an order of court to that effect by filing a petition therefor in the superior court in Sacramento County. The proceedings thereon shall be in accordance with the provisions of Section 11189.

SEC. 37. Section 11511.5 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11511.5. (a) On motion of a party or by order of an administrative law judge, the administrative law judge may conduct a prehearing conference. The administrative law judge shall set the time and place for the prehearing conference, and shall give reasonable written notice to all parties.

(b) The prehearing conference may deal with one or more of the following matters:

- (1) Exploration of settlement possibilities.
- (2) Preparation of stipulations.
- (3) Clarification of issues.
- (4) Rulings on identity and limitation of the number of witnesses.
- (5) Objections to proffers of evidence.
- (6) Order of presentation of evidence and cross-examination.
- (7) Rulings regarding issuance of subpoenas and protective orders.
- (8) Schedules for the submission of written briefs and schedules for the commencement and conduct of the hearing.

(9) Exchange of witness lists and of exhibits or documents to be offered in evidence at the hearing.

(10) Motions for intervention.

(11) Exploration of the possibility of using alternative dispute resolution provided in Article 5 (commencing with Section 11420.10) of, or the informal hearing procedure provided in Article 10 (commencing with Section 11445.10) of, Chapter 4.5, and objections to use of the informal hearing procedure. Use of alternative dispute resolution or of the informal hearing procedure is subject to subdivision (d).

(12) Any other matters as shall promote the orderly and prompt conduct of the hearing.

(c) The administrative law judge may conduct all or part of the prehearing conference by telephone, television, or other electronic means if each participant in the conference has an opportunity to participate in and to hear the entire proceeding while it is taking place.

(d) With the consent of the parties, the prehearing conference may be converted immediately into alternative dispute resolution or an informal hearing. With the consent of the parties, the proceeding may be converted into alternative dispute resolution to be conducted at another time. With the consent of the agency, the proceeding may be converted into an informal hearing to be conducted at another time subject to the right of a party to object to use of the informal hearing procedure as provided in Section 11445.30.

(e) The administrative law judge shall issue a prehearing order incorporating the matters determined at the prehearing conference. The administrative law judge may direct one or more of the parties to prepare a prehearing order.

SEC. 38. Section 11511.7 is added to the Government Code, to read:

11511.7. (a) The administrative law judge may order the parties to attend and participate in a settlement conference. The administrative law judge shall set the time and place for the settlement conference, and shall give reasonable written notice to all parties.

(b) The administrative law judge at the settlement conference shall not preside as administrative law judge at the hearing unless otherwise stipulated by the parties. The administrative law judge may conduct all or part of the settlement conference by telephone, television, or other electronic means if each participant in the conference has an opportunity to participate in and to hear the entire proceeding while it is taking place.

SEC. 39. Section 11512 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11512. (a) Every hearing in a contested case shall be presided over by an administrative law judge. The agency itself shall

determine whether the administrative law judge is to hear the case alone or whether the agency itself is to hear the case with the administrative law judge.

(b) When the agency itself hears the case, the administrative law judge shall preside at the hearing, rule on the admission and exclusion of evidence, and advise the agency on matters of law; the agency itself shall exercise all other powers relating to the conduct of the hearing but may delegate any or all of them to the administrative law judge. When the administrative law judge alone hears a case, he or she shall exercise all powers relating to the conduct of the hearing. A ruling of the administrative law judge admitting or excluding evidence is subject to review in the same manner and to the same extent as the administrative law judge's proposed decision in the proceeding.

(c) An administrative law judge or agency member shall voluntarily disqualify himself or herself and withdraw from any case in which there are grounds for disqualification, including disqualification under Section 11425.40. The parties may waive the disqualification by a writing that recites the grounds for disqualification. A waiver is effective only when signed by all parties, accepted by the administrative law judge or agency member, and included in the record. Any party may request the disqualification of any administrative law judge or agency member by filing an affidavit, prior to the taking of evidence at a hearing, stating with particularity the grounds upon which it is claimed that the administrative law judge or agency member is disqualified. Where the request concerns an agency member, the issue shall be determined by the other members of the agency. Where the request concerns the administrative law judge, the issue shall be determined by the agency itself if the agency itself hears the case with the administrative law judge, otherwise the issue shall be determined by the administrative law judge. No agency member shall withdraw voluntarily or be subject to disqualification if his or her disqualification would prevent the existence of a quorum qualified to act in the particular case, except that a substitute qualified to act may be appointed by the appointing authority.

(d) The proceedings at the hearing shall be reported by a stenographic reporter. However, upon the consent of all the parties, the proceedings may be reported electronically.

(e) Whenever, after the agency itself has commenced to hear the case with an administrative law judge presiding, a quorum no longer exists, the administrative law judge who is presiding shall complete the hearing as if sitting alone and shall render a proposed decision in accordance with subdivision (b) of Section 11517.

SEC. 40. Section 11513 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11513. (a) Oral evidence shall be taken only on oath or affirmation.

(b) Each party shall have these rights: to call and examine witnesses, to introduce exhibits; to cross-examine opposing witnesses on any matter relevant to the issues even though that matter was not covered in the direct examination; to impeach any witness regardless of which party first called him or her to testify; and to rebut the evidence against him or her. If respondent does not testify in his or her own behalf he or she may be called and examined as if under cross-examination.

(c) The hearing need not be conducted according to technical rules relating to evidence and witnesses, except as hereinafter provided. Any relevant evidence shall be admitted if it is the sort of evidence on which responsible persons are accustomed to rely in the conduct of serious affairs, regardless of the existence of any common law or statutory rule which might make improper the admission of the evidence over objection in civil actions.

(d) Hearsay evidence may be used for the purpose of supplementing or explaining other evidence but over timely objection shall not be sufficient in itself to support a finding unless it would be admissible over objection in civil actions. An objection is timely if made before submission of the case or on reconsideration.

(e) The rules of privilege shall be effective to the extent that they are otherwise required by statute to be recognized at the hearing.

(f) The presiding officer has discretion to exclude evidence if its probative value is substantially outweighed by the probability that its admission will necessitate undue consumption of time.

SEC. 41. Section 11513.5 of the Government Code is repealed.

SEC. 42. Section 11517 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11517. (a) If a contested case is heard before an agency itself, all of the following provisions apply:

(1) The administrative law judge who presided at the hearing shall be present during the consideration of the case and, if requested, shall assist and advise the agency.

(2) No member thereof who did not hear the evidence shall vote on the decision.

(3) The agency shall issue its decision within 100 days of submission of the case.

(b) If a contested case is heard by an administrative law judge alone, he or she shall prepare within 30 days after the case is submitted a proposed decision in a form that may be adopted as the decision in the case. Failure of the administrative law judge to deliver a proposed decision within the time required does not prejudice the rights of the agency in the case. Thirty days after receipt of the proposed decision, a copy of the proposed decision shall be filed by the agency as a public record and a copy shall be served by the agency on each party and his or her attorney. The filing and service is not an

adoption of a proposed decision by the agency. The agency itself may do any of the following:

- (1) Adopt the proposed decision in its entirety.
- (2) Reduce or otherwise mitigate the proposed penalty and adopt the balance of the proposed decision.
- (3) Make technical or other minor changes in the proposed decision and adopt it as the decision. Action by the agency under this paragraph is limited to a clarifying change or a change of a similar nature that does not affect the factual or legal basis of the proposed decision.

(c) If the proposed decision is not adopted as provided in subdivision (b), the agency itself may decide the case upon the record, including the transcript, or an agreed statement of the parties, with or without taking additional evidence, or may refer the case to the same administrative law judge if reasonably available, otherwise to another administrative law judge, to take additional evidence. A copy of the record shall be made available to the parties. The agency may require payment of fees covering direct costs of making the copy. By stipulation of the parties, the agency may decide the case upon the record without including the transcript. If the case is assigned to an administrative law judge he or she shall prepare a proposed decision as provided in subdivision (b) upon the additional evidence and the transcript and other papers which are part of the record of the prior hearing. A copy of the proposed decision shall be furnished to each party and his or her attorney as prescribed in subdivision (b). The agency itself shall decide no case provided for in this subdivision without affording the parties the opportunity to present either oral or written argument before the agency itself. If additional oral evidence is introduced before the agency itself, no agency member may vote unless the member heard the additional oral evidence. The authority of the agency itself to decide the case under this subdivision includes authority to decide some but not all issues in the case.

(d) The proposed decision shall be deemed adopted by the agency 100 days after delivery to the agency by the Office of Administrative Hearings, unless within that time (i) the agency notifies the parties that the proposed decision is not adopted as provided in subdivision (b) and commences proceedings to decide the case upon the record, including the transcript, or without the transcript where the parties have so stipulated, or (ii) the agency refers the case to the administrative law judge to take additional evidence. In a case where the agency commences proceedings to decide the case upon the record and has ordered a transcript of the proceedings, the 100-day period shall begin upon delivery of the transcript. If the agency finds that a further delay is required by special circumstances, it shall issue an order delaying the decision for no more than 30 days and

specifying the reasons therefor. The order shall be subject to judicial review pursuant to Section 11523.

(e) The decision of the agency shall be filed immediately by the agency as a public record and a copy shall be served by the agency on each party and his or her attorney.

SEC. 43. Section 11518 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11518. Copies of the decision shall be delivered to the parties personally or sent to them by registered mail.

SEC. 44. Section 11518.5 is added to the Government Code, to read:

11518.5. (a) Within 15 days after service of a copy of the decision on a party, but not later than the effective date of the decision, the party may apply to the agency for correction of a mistake or clerical error in the decision, stating the specific ground on which the application is made. Notice of the application shall be given to the other parties to the proceeding. The application is not a prerequisite for seeking judicial review.

(b) The agency may refer the application to the administrative law judge who formulated the proposed decision or may delegate its authority under this section to one or more persons.

(c) The agency may deny the application, grant the application and modify the decision, or grant the application and set the matter for further proceedings. The application is considered denied if the agency does not dispose of it within 15 days after it is made or a longer time that the agency provides by regulation.

(d) Nothing in this section precludes the agency, on its own motion or on motion of the administrative law judge, from modifying the decision to correct a mistake or clerical error. A modification under this subdivision shall be made within 15 days after issuance of the decision.

(e) The agency shall, within 15 days after correction of a mistake or clerical error in the decision, serve a copy of the correction on each party on which a copy of the decision was previously served.

SEC. 45. Section 11519 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11519. (a) The decision shall become effective 30 days after it is delivered or mailed to respondent unless: a reconsideration is ordered within that time, or the agency itself orders that the decision shall become effective sooner, or a stay of execution is granted.

(b) A stay of execution may be included in the decision or if not included therein may be granted by the agency at any time before the decision becomes effective. The stay of execution provided herein may be accompanied by an express condition that respondent comply with specified terms of probation; provided, however, that the terms of probation shall be just and reasonable in the light of the findings and decision.

(c) If respondent was required to register with any public officer, a notification of any suspension or revocation shall be sent to the officer after the decision has become effective.

(d) As used in subdivision (b), specified terms of probation may include an order of restitution. Where restitution is ordered and paid pursuant to the provisions of this subdivision, the amount paid shall be credited to any subsequent judgment in a civil action.

(e) The person to which the agency action is directed may not be required to comply with a decision unless the person has been served with the decision in the manner provided in Section 11505 or has actual knowledge of the decision.

(f) A nonparty may not be required to comply with a decision unless the agency has made the decision available for public inspection and copying or the nonparty has actual knowledge of the decision.

(g) This section does not preclude an agency from taking immediate action to protect the public interest in accordance with Article 13 (commencing with Section 11460.10) of Chapter 4.5.

SEC. 46. Section 11520 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11520. (a) If the respondent either fails to file a notice of defense or to appear at the hearing, the agency may take action based upon the respondent's express admissions or upon other evidence and affidavits may be used as evidence without any notice to respondent; and where the burden of proof is on the respondent to establish that the respondent is entitled to the agency action sought, the agency may act without taking evidence.

(b) Notwithstanding the default of the respondent, the agency or the administrative law judge, before a proposed decision is issued, has discretion to grant a hearing on reasonable notice to the parties. If the agency and administrative law judge make conflicting orders under this subdivision, the agency's order takes precedence. The administrative law judge may order the respondent, or the respondent's attorney or other authorized representative, or both, to pay reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees, incurred by another party as a result of the respondent's failure to appear at the hearing.

(c) Within seven days after service on the respondent of a decision based on the respondent's default, the respondent may serve a written motion requesting that the decision be vacated and stating the grounds relied on. The agency in its discretion may vacate the decision and grant a hearing on a showing of good cause. As used in this subdivision, good cause includes, but is not limited to, any of the following:

(1) Failure of the person to receive notice served pursuant to Section 11505.

(2) Mistake, inadvertence, surprise, or excusable neglect.

SEC. 47. Section 11523 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11523. Judicial review may be had by filing a petition for a writ of mandate in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Civil Procedure, subject, however, to the statutes relating to the particular agency. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the petition shall be filed within 30 days after the last day on which reconsideration can be ordered. The right to petition shall not be affected by the failure to seek reconsideration before the agency. On request of the petitioner for a record of the proceedings, the complete record of the proceedings, or the parts thereof as are designated by the petitioner in the request, shall be prepared by the Office of Administrative Hearings or the agency and shall be delivered to petitioner, within 30 days after the request, which time shall be extended for good cause shown, upon the payment of the fee specified in Section 69950 for the transcript, the cost of preparation of other portions of the record and for certification thereof. Thereafter, the remaining balance of any costs or charges for the preparation of the record shall be assessed against the petitioner whenever the agency prevails on judicial review following trial of the cause. These costs or charges constitute a debt of the petitioner which is collectible by the agency in the same manner as in the case of an obligation under a contract, and no license shall be renewed or reinstated where the petitioner has failed to pay all of these costs or charges. The complete record includes the pleadings, all notices and orders issued by the agency, any proposed decision by an administrative law judge, the final decision, a transcript of all proceedings, the exhibits admitted or rejected, the written evidence and any other papers in the case. Where petitioner, within 10 days after the last day on which reconsideration can be ordered, requests the agency to prepare all or any part of the record the time within which a petition may be filed shall be extended until 30 days after its delivery to him or her. The agency may file with the court the original of any document in the record in lieu of a copy thereof. In the event that the petitioner prevails in overturning the administrative decision following judicial review, the agency shall reimburse the petitioner for all costs of transcript preparation, compilation of the record, and certification.

SEC. 48. Section 11524 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11524. (a) The agency may grant continuances. When an administrative law judge of the Office of Administrative Hearings has been assigned to the hearing, no continuance may be granted except by him or her or by the presiding judge of the appropriate regional office of the Office of Administrative Hearings, for good cause shown.

(b) When seeking a continuance, a party shall apply for the continuance within 10 working days following the time the party

discovered or reasonably should have discovered the event or occurrence which establishes the good cause for the continuance. A continuance may be granted for good cause after the 10 working days have lapsed if the party seeking the continuance is not responsible for and has made a good faith effort to prevent the condition or event establishing the good cause.

(c) In the event that an application for a continuance by a party is denied by an administrative law judge of the Office of Administrative Hearings, and the party seeks judicial review thereof, the party shall, within 10 working days of the denial, make application for appropriate judicial relief in the superior court or be barred from judicial review thereof as a matter of jurisdiction. A party applying for judicial relief from the denial shall give notice to the agency and other parties. Notwithstanding Section 1010 of the Code of Civil Procedure, the notice may be either oral at the time of the denial of application for a continuance or written at the same time application is made in court for judicial relief. This subdivision does not apply to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control.

SEC. 49. Section 11525 of the Government Code is repealed.

SEC. 50. Section 11526 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11526. The members of an agency qualified to vote on any question may vote by mail or another appropriate method.

SEC. 51. Section 11529 of the Government Code is amended to read:

11529. (a) The administrative law judge of the Medical Quality Hearing Panel established pursuant to Section 11371 may issue an interim order suspending a license, or imposing drug testing, continuing education, supervision of procedures, or other license restrictions. Interim orders may be issued only if the affidavits in support of the petition show that the licensee has engaged in, or is about to engage in, acts or omissions constituting a violation of the Medical Practice Act or the appropriate practice act governing each allied health profession, and that permitting the licensee to continue to engage in the profession for which the license was issued will endanger the public health, safety, or welfare.

(b) All orders authorized by this section shall be issued only after a hearing conducted pursuant to subdivision (d), unless it appears from the facts shown by affidavit that serious injury would result to the public before the matter can be heard on notice. Except as provided in subdivision (c), the licensee shall receive at least 15 days' prior notice of the hearing, which notice shall include affidavits and all other information in support of the order.

(c) If an interim order is issued without notice, the administrative law judge who issued the order without notice shall cause the licensee to be notified of the order, including affidavits and all other information in support of the order by a 24-hour delivery service.

That notice shall also include the date of the hearing on the order, which shall be conducted in accordance with the requirement of subdivision (d), not later than 20 days from the date of issuance. The order shall be dissolved unless the requirements of subdivision (a) are satisfied.

(d) For the purposes of the hearing conducted pursuant to this section, the licensee shall, at a minimum, have the following rights:

(1) To be represented by counsel.

(2) To have a record made of the proceedings, copies of which may be obtained by the licensee upon payment of any reasonable charges associated with the record.

(3) To present written evidence in the form of relevant declarations, affidavits, and documents.

The discretion of the administrative law judge to permit testimony at the hearing conducted pursuant to this section shall be identical to the discretion of a superior court judge to permit testimony at a hearing conducted pursuant to Section 527 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

(4) To present oral argument.

(e) Consistent with the burden and standards of proof applicable to a preliminary injunction entered under Section 527 of the Code of Civil Procedure, the administrative law judge shall grant the interim order where, in the exercise of discretion, the administrative law judge concludes that:

(1) There is a reasonable probability that the petitioner will prevail in the underlying action.

(2) The likelihood of injury to the public in not issuing the order outweighs the likelihood of injury to the licensee in issuing the order.

(f) In all cases where an interim order is issued, and an accusation is not filed and served pursuant to Sections 11503 and 11505 within 15 days of the date in which the parties to the hearing on the interim order have submitted the matter, the order shall be dissolved.

Upon service of the accusation the licensee shall have, in addition to the rights granted by this section, all of the rights and privileges available as specified in this chapter. If the licensee requests a hearing on the accusation, the board shall provide the licensee with a hearing within 30 days of the request, unless the licensee stipulates to a later hearing, and a decision within 15 days of the date that matter is submitted, or the board shall nullify the interim order previously issued, unless good cause can be shown by the Division of Medical Quality for a delay.

(g) Where an interim order is issued, a written decision shall be prepared within 15 days of the hearing, by the administrative law judge, including findings of fact and a conclusion articulating the connection between the evidence produced at the hearing and the decision reached.

(h) Notwithstanding the fact that interim orders issued pursuant to this section are not issued after a hearing as otherwise required by this chapter, interim orders so issued shall be subject to judicial review pursuant to Section 1094.5 of the Code of Civil Procedure. The relief which may be ordered shall be limited to a stay of the interim order. Interim orders issued pursuant to this section are final interim orders and, if not dissolved pursuant to subdivision (c) or (f), may only be challenged administratively at the hearing on the accusation.

(i) The interim order provided for by this section shall be:

(1) In addition to, and not a limitation on, the authority to seek injunctive relief provided for in the Business and Professions Code.

(2) A limitation on the emergency decision procedure provided in Article 13 (commencing with Section 11460.10) of Chapter 4.5.

SEC. 52. Section 11530 of the Government Code is repealed.

SEC. 53. Section 12935 of the Government Code is amended to read:

12935. The commission shall have the following functions, powers, and duties:

(a) To adopt, promulgate, amend, and rescind suitable rules, regulations, and standards (1) to interpret, implement, and apply all provisions of this part, (2) to regulate the conduct of hearings held pursuant to Sections 12967 and 12980, and (3) to carry out all other functions and duties of the commission pursuant to this part.

(b) To conduct hearings pursuant to Sections 12967 and 12981.

(c) To establish and maintain a principal office within the state.

(d) To meet and function at any place within the state.

(e) To appoint an executive secretary, and any attorneys and other employees as it may deem necessary, fix their compensation within the limitations provided by law, and prescribe their duties.

(f) To hold hearings, subpoena witnesses, compel their attendance, administer oaths, examine any person under oath and, in connection therewith, to require the production of any books or papers relating to any matter under investigation or in question before the commission.

(g) To create or provide financial or technical assistance to any advisory agencies and conciliation councils, local or otherwise, as in its judgment will aid in effectuating the purposes of this part, and to empower them to study the problems of discrimination in all or specific fields of human relationships or in particular instances of employment discrimination on the bases enumerated in this part or in specific instances of housing discrimination because of race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, familial status, disability, marital status, or sex, and to foster, through community effort or otherwise, good will, cooperation, and conciliation among the groups and elements of the population of the state and to make recommendations to the commission for the development of policies and procedures in general. These advisory agencies and conciliation

councils shall be composed of representative citizens, serving without pay.

(h) With respect to findings and orders made pursuant to this part, to establish a system of published opinions which shall serve as precedent in interpreting and applying the provisions of this part. Commission findings, orders, and opinions in an adjudicative proceeding are subject to Section 11425.60.

(i) To issue publications and results of inquiries and research which in its judgment will tend to promote good will and minimize or eliminate unlawful discrimination. These publications shall include an annual report to the Governor and the Legislature of its activities and recommendations.

(j) Notwithstanding Sections 11370.3 and 11502, to appoint hearing officers, as it may deem necessary, to conduct hearings. Each hearing officer shall possess the qualifications established by the State Personnel Board for the particular class of position involved.

SEC. 54. Section 15609.5 is added to the Government Code, to read:

15609.5. Notwithstanding Section 11425.10, Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 11400) and Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 do not apply to the board.

SEC. 55. Section 17533 is added to the Government Code, to read:

17533. Notwithstanding Section 11425.10, Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 11400) of Part 1 of Division 3 does not apply to a hearing by the commission under this part.

SEC. 56. Section 19582.5 of the Government Code is amended to read:

19582.5. The board may designate certain of its decisions as precedents. Decisions of the board are subject to Section 11425.60. The board may provide by rule for the reconsideration of a previously issued decision to determine whether or not it shall be designated as a precedent decision. All decisions designated as precedents shall be published in a manner determined by the board.

SEC. 57. Section 21758 of the Government Code is amended to read:

21758. The board, in addition to its general rulemaking authority under Section 20120, may adopt regulations that implement this part. Those regulations shall be exempt from substantive review by the Office of Administrative Law, in particular from that office's review under Sections 11346.2, 11346.5, and 11346.9, subdivision (c) of Section 11346.8, subdivision (b) of Section 11347.3, and Sections 11349.1, 11349.2, 11349.3, and 11349.4. The board may adopt regulations which implement this part on an emergency basis, without regard to the substantive review provisions set forth in subdivisions (a) to (c), inclusive, of Section 11349.6.

SEC. 57.5. Section 37624.2 of the Government Code is amended to read:

37624.2. The governing body or the hearing officer, if one is appointed, shall have the same power with respect to the issuance of subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum as that granted to any agency or hearing officer pursuant to Article 11 (commencing with Section 11450.10) of Chapter 4.5 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2. Any subpoena or subpoena duces tecum issued pursuant to this section shall have the same force and effect and impose the same obligations upon witnesses as that provided in Article 11 (commencing with Section 11450.10) of Chapter 4.5 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2.

SEC. 58. Section 68560.5 of the Government Code is amended to read:

68560.5. As used in this article:

(a) "Court proceeding" means a civil, criminal, or juvenile proceeding, or a deposition in a civil case filed in a court of record. However, "court proceeding" does not include a small claims proceeding.

(b) "Interpreter" does not include (1) an interpreter qualified under Section 754 of the Evidence Code to interpret for deaf or hearing impaired persons, or (2) an interpreter qualified for administrative hearings or noncourt settings under Section 11513.

(c) This section shall become inoperative on July 1, 1997, and, as of January 1, 1998, is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that becomes operative on or before January 1, 1998, deletes or extends the dates on which it becomes inoperative and is repealed.

SEC. 58.5. Section 68560.5 is added to the Government Code, to read:

68560.5. As used in this article:

(a) "Court proceeding" means a civil, criminal, or juvenile proceeding, or a deposition in a civil case filed in a court of record. However, "court proceeding" does not include a small claims proceeding.

(b) "Interpreter" does not include (1) an interpreter qualified under Section 754 of the Evidence Code to interpret for deaf or hearing impaired persons, or (2) an interpreter qualified for administrative hearings or noncourt settings under Article 8 (commencing with Section 11435.05) of Chapter 4.5 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2.

SEC. 59. Section 443.37 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

443.37. (a) Any health facility affected by any determination made under this part by the office may petition the office for review of the decision. This petition shall be filed with the office within 15 business days, or within such greater time as the office, with the advice of the commission, may allow, and shall specifically describe the matters which are disputed by the petitioner.

(b) A hearing shall be commenced within 60 calendar days of the date on which the petition was filed. The hearing shall be held before

an employee of the office, an administrative law judge employed by the Office of Administrative Hearings, or a committee of the commission chosen by the chairperson for this purpose. If held before an employee of the office or a committee of the commission, the hearing shall be held in accordance with any procedures as the office, with the advice of the commission, shall prescribe. If held before an administrative law judge employed by the Office of Administrative Hearings, the hearing shall be held in accordance with Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code. The employee, administrative law judge, or committee shall prepare a recommended decision including findings of fact and conclusions of law and present it to the office for its adoption. The decision of the office shall be in writing and shall be final. The decision of the office shall be made within 60 calendar days after the conclusion of the hearing and shall be effective upon filing and service upon the petitioner.

(c) Judicial review of any final action, determination, or decision may be had by any party to the proceedings as provided in Section 1094.5 of the Code of Civil Procedure. The decision of the office shall be upheld against a claim that its findings are not supported by the evidence unless the court determines that the findings are not supported by substantial evidence.

(d) The employee of the office, the administrative law judge employed by the Office of Administrative Hearings, the Office of Administrative Hearings, or the committee of the commission, may issue subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum in a manner and subject to the conditions established by Article 11 (commencing with Section 11450.10) of Chapter 4.5 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

SEC. 60. Section 1551.5 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

1551.5. In addition to the witness fees and mileage provided by Section 11450.40 of the Government Code, the department may pay actual, necessary, and reasonable expenses in an amount not to exceed the per diem allowance payable to a nonrepresented state employee on travel status. The department may pay witness expenses in advance of the hearing.

SEC. 61. Section 1568.065 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

1568.065. (a) Proceedings for the suspension, revocation, or denial of a license under this chapter shall be conducted in accordance with Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, and the department shall have all those powers granted by the provisions. In the event of conflict between this chapter and those provisions of the Government Code, this chapter shall prevail.

(b) In all proceedings conducted in accordance with this section, the standard of proof to be applied shall be by the preponderance of the evidence.

(c) If the license is not temporarily suspended pursuant to Section 1568.082, the hearing shall be held within 90 calendar days after receipt of the notice of defense, unless a continuance of the hearing is granted by the department or the administrative law judge. When the matter has been set for hearing, only the administrative law judge may grant a continuance of the hearing. The administrative law judge may, but need not, grant a continuance of the hearing, only upon finding the existence of any of the following:

(1) The death or incapacitating illness of a party, a representative or attorney of a party, a witness to an essential fact, or of the parent, child, or member of the household of that person, when it is not feasible to substitute another representative, attorney, or witness because of the proximity of the hearing date.

(2) Lack of notice of hearing as provided in Section 11509 of the Government Code.

(3) A material change in the status of the case where a change in the parties or pleadings requires postponement, or an executed settlement or stipulated findings of fact obviate the need for hearing. A partial amendment of the pleadings shall not be good cause for continuance to the extent that the unamended portion of the pleadings is ready to be heard.

(4) A stipulation for continuance signed by all parties or their authorized representatives, including, but not limited to, a representative, which is communicated with the request for continuance to the administrative law judge no later than 25 business days before the hearing.

(5) The substitution of the representative or attorney of a party upon showing that the substitution is required.

(6) The unavailability of a party, representative, or attorney of a party, or witness to an essential fact due to a conflicting and required appearance in a judicial matter if when the hearing date was set, the person did not know and could neither anticipate nor at any time avoid the conflict, and the conflict with request for continuance is immediately communicated to the administrative law judge.

(7) The unavailability of a party, a representative or attorney of a party, or a material witness due to an unavoidable emergency.

(8) Failure by a party to comply with a timely discovery request if the continuance request is made by the party who requested the discovery.

(d) In addition to the witness fees and mileage provided by Section 11450.40 of the Government Code, the department may pay actual, necessary, and reasonable expenses in an amount not to exceed the per diem allowance payable to a nonrepresented state

employee on travel status. The department may pay witness expenses pursuant to this section in advance of the hearing.

(e) (1) The withdrawal of an application for a license or a special permit after it has been filed with the department shall not deprive the department of its authority to institute or continue a proceeding against the applicant for the denial of the license or a special permit upon any ground provided by law or to enter an order denying the license or special permit upon any ground provided by law.

(2) The suspension, expiration, or forfeiture by operation of law of a license issued by the department, or its suspension, forfeiture, or cancellation by order of the department or by order of a court of law, or its surrender, shall not deprive the department of its authority to institute or continue a disciplinary proceeding against the licensee upon any ground provided by law or to enter an order suspending or revoking the license or otherwise taking disciplinary action against the licensee on any ground provided by law.

(f) (1) If an application for a license indicates, or the department determines during the application review process, that the applicant previously was issued a license under this chapter or under Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 1200), Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 1250), Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 1500), Chapter 3.3 (commencing with Section 1569), Chapter 3.4 (commencing with Section 1596.70), Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 1596.90), or Chapter 3.6 (commencing with Section 1597.30) and the prior license was revoked within the preceding two years, the department shall cease any further review of the application until two years shall have elapsed from the date of the revocation. The cessation of review shall not constitute a denial of the application for purposes of Section 1568.062, this section, or any other provision of law.

(2) If an application for a license indicates, or the department determines during the application review process, that the applicant had previously applied for a license under any of the chapters listed in paragraph (1) and the application was denied within the last year, the department shall cease further review of the application under either of the following circumstances:

(A) In cases where the applicant petitioned for a hearing, the department shall cease further review of the application until one year has elapsed from the effective date of the decision and order of the department upholding a denial.

(B) In cases where the department informed the applicant of his or her right to petition for a hearing as specified in Section 1568.063 and the applicant did not petition for a hearing, the department shall cease further review of the application until one year has elapsed from the date of the notification of the denial and the right to petition for a hearing.

(3) The department may continue to review the application if it has determined that the reasons for the denial of the application were

due to circumstances and conditions which either have been corrected or are no longer in existence.

SEC. 62. Section 1569.515 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

1569.515. In addition to the witness fees and mileage provided by Section 11450.40 of the Government Code, the department may pay actual, necessary, and reasonable expenses in an amount not to exceed the per diem allowance payable to a nonrepresented state employee on travel status. The department may pay witness expenses pursuant to this section in advance of the hearing.

SEC. 63. Section 1596.8875 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

1596.8875. In addition to the witness fees and mileage provided by Section 11450.40 of the Government Code, the department may pay actual, necessary, and reasonable expenses in an amount not to exceed the per diem allowance payable to a nonrepresented state employee on travel status. The department may pay witness expenses pursuant to this section in advance of the hearing.

SEC. 64. Section 11830 of the Health and Safety Code, as added by Chapter 1328 of the Statutes of 1984, is amended to read:

11830. In order to assure quality assurance of alcohol programs and expand the availability of funding resources, the department shall implement a program certification procedure for direct services funded under this part. The department, after consultation with the state advisory board, county alcohol program administrators, and other interested organizations and individuals, shall develop standards and regulations for the direct services describing the minimal level of service quality required of the service providers to qualify for and obtain state certification. The standards shall be voluntary until adopted as regulations, except that, notwithstanding Section 11340.5 of the Government Code, in order for a direct service provider to be eligible for funds pursuant to Section 1463.16 of the Penal Code, the provider shall have a valid certificate issued by the department under this chapter, whether or not the standards have been promulgated as regulations.

SEC. 64.4. Section 11830.5 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

11830.5. The department, in consultation with the State Advisory Board, county alcohol and drug program administrators, and other interested organizations and individuals, shall develop program standards specific to each type of residential program, to be used during its certification process. These standards shall be advisory only and are excluded from the provisions of Section 11340.5 of the Government Code and other requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code) and Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 11835).

The program standards shall include, but not be limited to, both of the following:

(a) Recognition and characterization of different approaches and solutions to the alcohol and drug problems that the department determines have sufficient merit for a separate standard.

(b) Reference to the needs of youth, the elderly, women, pregnant women, mothers and their children, gay, disabled, and minority populations, with recognition of innovative solutions to the problems of those special populations.

The program standards shall serve as educational documents to inform the public of the current state-of-the-art in effective and cost-efficient alcohol and drug problem programming.

SEC. 64.8. Section 11834.37 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

11834.37. (a) Proceedings for the suspension, revocation, or denial of a license under this chapter shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, and the department shall have all the powers granted by those provisions. In the event of conflict between this chapter and the Government Code, the Government Code shall prevail.

(b) In all proceedings conducted in accordance with this section, the standard of proof to be applied shall be by the preponderance of the evidence.

(c) The department shall commence and process licensure revocations under this chapter in a timely and expeditious manner. The Office of Administrative Hearings shall give priority calendar preference to licensure revocation hearings pursuant to this chapter, particularly revocations where the health and safety of the residents are in question.

SEC. 65. Section 11994 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

11994. (a) In order to assure the quality of drug programs and expand the availability of funding resources, the department shall implement a program certification procedure for drug abuse treatment services funded under this part. The department, after consultation with the State Advisory Board on Drug Programs, the County Drug Program Administrators Association, and other interested organizations and individuals, shall develop standards for the drug abuse treatment services describing the minimal level of service quality required of programs to qualify for and obtain state certification. The standards shall be excluded from the provisions of Section 11340.5 of the Government Code and the requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code). Compliance with these standards shall be voluntary on the part of programs. For the purposes of Section 2626.2 of the

Unemployment Insurance Code, certification shall be equivalent to program review.

(b) The department may charge a reasonable fee for the certification or renewal certification of a program which voluntarily requests the certification. The fee shall be set at a level sufficient to cover administrative costs of the program certification process incurred by the department. In calculating the administrative costs the department shall include staff salaries and benefits, related travel costs, and state operational and administrative costs.

(c) The department may contract with private individuals or agencies to provide technical assistance and training to qualify programs for state certification. The department may charge a fee for these services.

SEC. 65.4. Section 18930 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

18930. (a) Any building standard adopted or proposed by state agencies shall be submitted to, and approved or adopted by, the California Building Standards Commission prior to codification. Prior to submission to the commission, building standards shall be adopted in compliance with the procedures specified in Article 5 (commencing with Section 11346) of Chapter 3.5 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code. Building standards adopted by state agencies and submitted to the commission for approval shall be accompanied by an analysis written by the adopting agency or state agency that proposes the building standards which shall, to the satisfaction of the commission, justify the approval thereof in terms of the following criteria:

(1) The proposed building standards do not conflict with, overlap, or duplicate other building standards.

(2) The proposed building standard is within the parameters established by enabling legislation and is not expressly within the exclusive jurisdiction of another agency.

(3) The public interest requires the adoption of the building standards.

(4) The proposed building standard is not unreasonable, arbitrary, unfair, or capricious, in whole or in part.

(5) The cost to the public is reasonable, based on the overall benefit to be derived from the building standards.

(6) The proposed building standard is not unnecessarily ambiguous or vague, in whole or in part.

(7) The applicable national specifications, published standards, and model codes have been incorporated therein as provided in this part, where appropriate.

(A) If a national specification, published standard, or model code does not adequately address the goals of the state agency, a statement defining the inadequacy shall accompany the proposed building standard when submitted to the commission.

(B) If there is no national specification, published standard, or model code that is relevant to the proposed building standard, the state agency shall prepare a statement informing the commission and submit that statement with the proposed building standard.

(8) The format of the proposed building standards is consistent with that adopted by the commission.

(9) The proposed building standard, if it promotes fire and panic safety, as determined by the State Fire Marshal, has the written approval of the State Fire Marshal.

(b) In reviewing building standards submitted for its approval, the commission shall consider only the record of the proceedings of the adopting agency, except as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 11359 of the Government Code.

(c) Where the commission is the adopting agency, it shall consider the record submitted to, and considered by, the state agency that proposes the building standards and the record of public comment that results from the commission's adoption of proposed regulations.

(d) (1) The commission shall give great weight to the determinations and analysis of the adopting agency or state agency that proposes the building standards on each of the criteria for approval set forth in subdivision (a). Any factual determinations of the adopting agency or state agency that proposes the building standards shall be considered conclusive by the commission unless the commission specifically finds, and sets forth its reasoning in writing, that the factual determination is arbitrary and capricious or substantially unsupported by the evidence considered by the adopting agency or state agency that proposes the building standards.

(2) Whenever the commission makes a finding, as described in this subdivision, it shall return the standard to the adopting agency or state agency that proposes the building standards for a reexamination of its original determination of the disputed fact.

(e) Whenever a building standard is principally intended to protect the public health and safety, its adoption shall not be a "factual determination" for purposes of subdivision (d). Whenever a building standard is principally intended to conserve energy or other natural resources, the commission shall consider or review the cost to the public or benefit to be derived as a "factual determination" pursuant to subdivision (d). Whenever a building standard promotes fire and panic safety, each agency shall, unless adopted by the State Fire Marshal, submit the building standard to the State Fire Marshal for prior approval.

(f) Whenever the commission finds, pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a), that a building standard is adopted by an adopting agency pursuant to statutes requiring adoption of the building standard, the commission shall not consider or review whether the

adoption is in the public interest pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (a).

SEC. 65.8. Section 18949.6 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

18949.6. (a) The commission shall adopt regulations setting forth the procedure for the adoption of building standards and administrative regulations that apply directly to the implementation or enforcement of building standards.

(b) Regulatory adoption shall be accomplished so as to facilitate the triennial adoption of the specified model codes pursuant to Section 18928.

(c) The regulations shall allow for the distribution of proposed building standards and regulatory changes to the public for review in compliance with the requirements of the rulemaking provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code) and for the acceptance of responses from the public.

SEC. 66. Section 25149 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

25149. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, except as provided in Section 25149.5 or 25181 of this code or Section 731 of the Code of Civil Procedure, no city or county, whether chartered or general law, or district may enact, issue, enforce, suspend, revoke, or modify any ordinance, regulation, law, license, or permit relating to an existing hazardous waste facility so as to prohibit or unreasonably regulate the disposal, treatment, or recovery of resources from hazardous waste or a mix of hazardous and solid wastes at that facility, unless, after public notice and hearing, the director determines that the operation of the facility may present an imminent and substantial endangerment to health and the environment. However, nothing in this section authorizes an operator of that facility to violate any term or condition of a local land use permit or any other provision of law not in conflict with this section.

(b) The director shall, pursuant to subdivision (c), conduct the hearing specified in subdivision (a) to determine whether the operation of an existing hazardous waste facility may present an imminent and substantial endangerment to health and the environment whenever any of the following occurs:

(1) A state or federal public agency requires any person to evacuate a residence or requires the evacuation of a school, place of employment, commercial establishment, or other facility to which the public has access, because of the release of a hazardous substance from the facility.

(2) For more than five days in any month, the air emissions from the facility result in the violation of an emission standard for a hazardous air pollutant established pursuant to Section 7412 of Title

42 of the United States Code or the threshold exposure level for a toxic air contaminant, as defined in Section 39655.

(3) A state or federal public agency requires that the use of a source of drinking water be discontinued because of the contamination of the source by a release of hazardous waste, hazardous substances, or leachate from the facility.

(4) A state agency, or the board of supervisors of the county in which the facility is located, upon recommendation of its local health officer, makes a finding that the public health has been affected by a release of hazardous wastes from the facility. The finding shall be based on statistically significant data developed in a health effects study conducted according to a study design, and using a methodology, which are developed after considering the suggestions on study design and methodology made by interested parties and which are approved by the Epidemiological Studies Section in the Epidemiology and Toxicology Branch of the department before beginning the study.

(5) The owner or operator of the facility is in violation of an order issued pursuant to Section 25187 which requires one or both of the following:

(A) The correction of a violation or condition that has resulted, or threatens to result, in an unauthorized release of hazardous waste or a constituent of hazardous waste from the facility into either the onsite or offsite environment.

(B) The cleanup of a release of hazardous waste or a constituent of hazardous waste, the abatement of the effects of the release, and any other necessary remedial action.

(6) The facility is in violation of an order issued pursuant to Article 1 (commencing with Section 13300) of, or Article 2 (commencing with Section 13320) of, Chapter 5 of Division 7 of the Water Code or in violation of a temporary restraining order, preliminary injunction, or permanent injunction issued pursuant to Article 4 (commencing with Section 13340) of Chapter 5 of Division 7 of the Water Code.

(c) Whenever the director determines that a hearing is required, as specified in subdivision (b), the director shall immediately request the Office of Administrative Hearings to assign an administrative law judge to conduct the hearing, pursuant to this subdivision.

(1) After an administrative law judge is assigned by the Office of Administrative Hearings, the director shall transmit to the administrative law judge and to the operator of the existing hazardous waste facility, all relevant documents, information, and data that were the basis for the director's determination. The director shall also prepare a notice specifying the time and place of the hearing. The notice shall also include a clear statement of the reasons for conducting the hearing, a description of the facts, data, circumstances, or occurrences that are the cause for conducting the hearing, and the issues to be addressed at the hearing. The hearing

shall be held as close to the location of the existing hazardous waste facility as is practicable and shall commence no later than 30 days following the director's request to the Office of Administrative Hearings to assign an administrative law judge to the case.

(2) The hearing specified in paragraph (1) shall be conducted in accordance with Article 8 (commencing with Section 11435.05) of Chapter 4.5 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of, and Sections 11511 to 11515, inclusive, of, the Government Code. The administrative law judge's proposed decision shall be transmitted to the director within 30 days after the case is submitted.

(3) The director may adopt the proposed decision of the administrative law judge in its entirety or may decide the case upon the record, as provided in Section 11517 of the Government Code. The director's decision shall be in writing and shall contain findings of fact and a determination of the issues presented. The decision is subject to judicial review in accordance with Section 11523 of the Government Code.

SEC. 67. Section 25229 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

25229. (a) If, after the hearing, the director makes the decision that the subject land should not be designated a hazardous waste property or border zone property, the director shall issue that decision in writing and serve it in the manner provided in subdivision (c).

(b) If, after the hearing, the director makes the decision, upon a preponderance of the evidence, including any evidence developed at any time prior to the hearing, that the land should be designated a hazardous waste property or a border zone property, the director shall issue that decision in writing, which shall identify the subject land, or portion thereof, by street address, assessor's parcel number, or legal description and the name of the owner of record, contain findings of fact based upon the issues presented, including the reasons for this designation, the substances on, under, or in the land, and the significant existing or potential hazards to present or future public health and safety, and order every owner of the designated land to take all of the following actions:

(1) Execute before a notary a written instrument which imposes an easement, covenant, restriction, or servitude, or any combination thereof, as appropriate, upon the present and future uses of the land pursuant to Section 25230. The written instrument shall also include a copy of the director's decision.

(2) Return the executed instrument to the director within 30 days after the decision is delivered or mailed. Within 10 days after receiving the instrument, the director shall execute the written instrument and return the instrument to the owner.

(3) Record the written instrument pursuant to Section 25230 within 10 days after receiving the written instrument executed by the director, as specified in paragraph (2).

(4) Return the recorded written instrument to the director within 10 days after the owner records the instrument, as specified in paragraph (3).

(c) Copies of the determination shall be delivered or sent by certified mail to the owner of the property, the legislative body of the city or county in whose jurisdiction the land is located, and any other persons who were served pursuant to Section 25222 or who were permitted to intervene in the proceeding pursuant to Section 25226.

(d) Failure or refusal to comply with any order issued pursuant to this section shall be treated in the manner provided by Article 12 (commencing with Section 11455.10) of Chapter 4.5 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

SEC. 68. Section 25299.59 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

25299.59. (a) Except as specified in subdivision (b), the procedures in Article 8 (commencing with Section 11435.05) of Chapter 4.5 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of, and in Section 11513 of, the Government Code apply to the proceedings conducted by the board pursuant to this article.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), Sections 801, 802, 803, 804, and 805 of the Evidence Code apply to the proceedings conducted by the board pursuant to this article.

(c) This article does not require any person to pursue a claim against the board pursuant to this article before seeking any other remedy.

(d) If the board has paid out of the fund for any costs of corrective action, the board shall not pay any other claim out of the fund for the same costs.

(e) Notwithstanding Sections 25299.57 and 25299.58, the board shall not reimburse or authorize prepayment of any claim in an aggregate amount exceeding nine hundred ninety thousand (\$990,000) for a claim arising from the same event or occurrence.

(f) The board may conduct an audit of any corrective action claim honored pursuant to this chapter. The claimant shall reimburse the state for any costs disallowed in the audit. A claimant shall preserve, and make available, upon request of the board or the board's designee, all records pertaining to the corrective action claim for a period of three years after the final payment is made to the claimant.

SEC. 69. Section 25375.5 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

25375.5. (a) Except as specified in subdivision (b), the procedures specified in Article 8 (commencing with Section 11435.05) of Chapter 4.5 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of, and in

Section 11513 of, the Government Code apply to the proceedings conducted by the board pursuant to this article.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), Sections 801, 802, 803, 804, and 805 of the Evidence Code apply to the proceedings conducted by the board pursuant to this article.

(c) The board may consider evidence presented by any person against whom a demand was made pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 25372. The evidence presented by that person shall become a part of the record upon which the board's decision shall be based.

SEC. 70. Section 32154 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

32154. The board or the hearing officer, if one is appointed, shall have the same power with respect to the issuance of subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum as that granted to any agency or presiding officer pursuant to Article 11 (commencing with Section 11450.10) of Chapter 4.5 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code. Any subpoena or subpoena duces tecum issued pursuant to this section shall have the same force and effect and impose the same obligations upon witnesses as that provided in Article 11 (commencing with Section 11450.10) of Chapter 4.5 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

SEC. 71. Section 39657 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

39657. (a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), the state board shall identify toxic air contaminants which are emitted into the ambient air of the state using the procedures and following the requirements prescribed by Article 3 (commencing with Section 39660).

(b) The state board shall, by regulation, designate any substance that is listed as a hazardous air pollutant pursuant to subsection (b) of Section 112 of the federal act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 7412(b)) as a toxic air contaminant. A regulation that designates a hazardous air pollutant as a toxic air contaminant shall be deemed to be a regulation mandated by federal law and is not subject to Sections 11346.2 and 11346.9 of the Government Code, Article 6 (commencing with Section 11349) of Chapter 3.5 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, or Article 3 (commencing with Section 39660).

SEC. 71.5. Section 40843 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

40843. Upon receipt of a report submitted pursuant to Section 40842, the superior court shall proceed as specified in Section 11455.20 of the Government Code.

SEC. 72. Section 50199.17 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

50199.17. (a) The committee may adopt, amend, or repeal rules and regulations for the allocation of housing credits pursuant to this chapter and Sections 17058 and 23610.5 of the Revenue and Taxation

Code without complying with the procedural requirements of Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, except as described in subdivision (b).

(b) The committee shall provide a notice of proposed action as described in Section 11346.5 of the Government Code. The notice of proposed action shall be provided to the public at least 21 days before the close of the public comment period, and the committee shall schedule at least one public hearing as described in Section 11346.8 of the Government Code before the close of the public comment period. The committee shall maintain a rulemaking file as described in Section 11347.3 of the Government Code. The final version of the regulations shall be accompanied by a final statement of reasons as described in subdivision (a) of Section 11346.9 of the Government Code.

(c) These rules and regulations shall be effective immediately upon adoption by the committee.

(d) The committee may also adopt, amend, or repeal emergency rules and regulations pursuant to this chapter and pursuant to Sections 17057.5, 17058, 23610.4, and 23610.5 of the Revenue and Taxation Code. The adoption, amendment, or repeal of these regulations shall be conclusively presumed to be necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety, or general welfare within the meaning or purposes of Section 11346.1 of the Government Code.

SEC. 72.4. Section 57005 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

57005. (a) Commencing January 1, 1994, each board, department, and office within the agency, before adopting any major regulation, shall evaluate the alternatives to the requirements of the proposed regulation that are submitted to the board, department, or office pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (a) of Section 11346.5 of the Government Code and consider whether there is a less costly alternative or combination of alternatives which would be equally as effective in achieving increments of environmental protection in a manner that ensures full compliance with statutory mandates within the same amount of time as the proposed regulatory requirements.

(b) For purposes of this section, "major regulation" means any regulation that will have an economic impact on the state's business enterprises in an amount exceeding ten million dollars (\$10,000,000), as estimated by the board, department, or office within the agency proposing to adopt the regulation in the assessment required by subdivision (a) of Section 11346.3 of the Government Code.

(c) On or before December 31, 1994, after consulting with the Secretary of Trade and Commerce, the director or executive officer of each board, department, and office within the agency, and after receiving public comment, the secretary shall adopt guidelines to be

followed by the boards, departments, and offices within the agency concerning the methods and procedures to be used in conducting the evaluation required by this section.

SEC. 72.8. Section 146 of the Labor Code is amended to read:

146. In the conduct of hearings related to permanent variances, the board and its representatives are not bound by common law or statutory rules of evidence or by technical or formal rules of procedure but shall conduct the hearings in accordance with Article 8 (commencing with Section 11435.05) of Chapter 4.5 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of, and Section 11513 of, the Government Code. A full and complete record shall be kept of all proceedings.

SEC. 73. Section 1144.5 is added to the Labor Code, to read:

1144.5. (a) Notwithstanding Section 11425.10 of the Government Code, Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 11400) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code does not apply to a hearing by the board under this part, except a hearing to determine an unfair labor practice charge.

(b) Notwithstanding Sections 11425.30 and 11430.10 of the Government Code, in a hearing to determine an unfair labor practice charge, a person who has participated in a determination of probable cause, injunctive or other pre-hearing relief, or other equivalent preliminary determination in an adjudicative proceeding may serve as presiding officer or as a supervisor of the presiding officer or may assist or advise the presiding officer in the same proceeding.

SEC. 74. Section 4600 of the Labor Code is amended to read:

4600. Medical, surgical, chiropractic, and hospital treatment, including nursing, medicines, medical and surgical supplies, crutches, and apparatus, including orthotic and prosthetic devices and services, that is reasonably required to cure or relieve from the effects of the injury shall be provided by the employer. In the case of his or her neglect or refusal seasonably to do so, the employer is liable for the reasonable expense incurred by or on behalf of the employee in providing treatment. After 30 days from the date the injury is reported, the employee may be treated by a physician of his or her own choice or at a facility of his or her own choice within a reasonable geographic area. However, if an employee has notified his or her employer in writing prior to the date of injury that he or she has a personal physician, the employee shall have the right to be treated by that physician from the date of injury. If an employee requests a change of physician pursuant to Section 4601, the request may be made at any time after the injury, and the alternative physician or chiropractor shall be provided within five days of the request as required by Section 4601. For the purpose of this section, "personal physician" means the employee's regular physician and surgeon, licensed pursuant to Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 2000) of Division 2 of the Business and Professions Code, who has previously directed the medical treatment of the employee, and who

retains the employee's medical records, including his or her medical history.

Where at the request of the employer, the employer's insurer, the administrative director, the appeals board, or a workers' compensation judge, the employee submits to examination by a physician, he or she shall be entitled to receive in addition to all other benefits herein provided all reasonable expenses of transportation, meals, and lodging incident to reporting for the examination, together with one day of temporary disability indemnity for each day of wages lost in submitting to the examination. Regardless of the date of injury, "reasonable expenses of transportation" includes mileage fees from the employee's home to the place of the examination and back at the rate of twenty-one cents (\$0.21) a mile or the mileage rate adopted by the Director of the Department of Personnel Administration pursuant to Section 19820 of the Government Code, whichever is higher, plus any bridge tolls. The mileage and tolls shall be paid to the employee at the time he or she is given notification of the time and place of the examination.

Where at the request of the employer, the employer's insurer, the administrative director, the appeals board, a workers' compensation judge, an employee submits to examination by a physician and the employee does not proficiently speak or understand the English language, he or she shall be entitled to the services of a qualified interpreter in accordance with conditions and a fee schedule prescribed by the administrative director. These services shall be provided by the employer. For purposes of this section, "qualified interpreter" means a language interpreter certified, or deemed certified, pursuant to Article 8 (commencing with Section 11435.05) of Chapter 4.5 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of, or Section 68566 of, the Government Code.

SEC. 75. Section 5278 of the Labor Code is amended to read:

5278. (a) No disclosure of any offers of settlement made by any party shall be made to the arbitrator prior to the filing of the award.

(b) Article 7 (commencing with Section 11430.10) of Chapter 4.5 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code applies to a communication to the arbitrator or a potential arbitrator.

SEC. 76. Section 5710 of the Labor Code is amended to read:

5710. (a) The appeals board, a workers' compensation judge, or any party to the action or proceeding, may, in any investigation or hearing before the appeals board, cause the deposition of witnesses residing within or without the state to be taken in the manner prescribed by law for like depositions in civil actions in the superior courts of this state. To that end the attendance of witnesses and the production of records may be required. Depositions may be taken outside the state before any officer authorized to administer oaths. The appeals board or a workers' compensation judge in any proceeding before the appeals board may cause evidence to be taken

in other jurisdictions before the agency authorized to hear workers' compensation matters in those other jurisdictions.

(b) Where the employer or insurance carrier requests a deposition to be taken of an injured employee, or any person claiming benefits as a dependent of an injured employee, the deponent is entitled to receive in addition to all other benefits:

(1) All reasonable expenses of transportation, meals, and lodging incident to the deposition.

(2) Reimbursement for any loss of wages incurred during attendance at the deposition.

(3) A copy of the transcript of the deposition, without cost.

(4) A reasonable allowance for attorney's fees for the deponent, if represented by an attorney licensed by the state bar of this state. The fee shall be discretionary with, and, if allowed, shall be set by, the appeals board, but shall be paid by the employer or his or her insurer.

(5) A reasonable allowance for interpreter's fees for the deponent, if interpretation services are needed and provided by a language interpreter certified or deemed certified pursuant to Article 8 (commencing with Section 11435.05) of Chapter 4.5 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of, or Section 68566 of, the Government Code. The fee shall be in accordance with the fee schedule set by the administrative director and paid by the employer or his or her insurer. Payment for interpreter's services shall be allowed for deposition of a non-English-speaking injured worker, and for any other deposition-related events as permitted by the administrative director.

SEC. 77. Section 5811 of the Labor Code is amended to read:

5811. (a) No fees shall be charged by the clerk of any court for the performance of any official service required by this division, except for the docketing of awards as judgments and for certified copies of transcripts thereof. In all proceedings under this division before the appeals board, costs as between the parties may be allowed by the appeals board.

(b) It shall be the responsibility of any party producing a witness requiring an interpreter to arrange for the presence of a qualified interpreter. A qualified interpreter is a language interpreter who is certified, or deemed certified, pursuant to Article 8 (commencing with Section 11435.05) of Chapter 4.5 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of, or Section 68566 of, the Government Code.

Interpreter fees which are reasonably, actually, and necessarily incurred shall be allowed as cost under this section, provided they are in accordance with the fee schedule set by the administrative director.

A qualified interpreter may render services during the following:

(1) A deposition.

(2) An appeals board hearing.

(3) During those settings which the administrative director determines are reasonably necessary to ascertain the validity or extent of injury to an employee who cannot communicate in English.

SEC. 78. Section 6380.5 of the Labor Code is amended to read:

6380.5. (a) Prior to the director's adoption of the list of hazardous substances, the director shall submit the list to the Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board for its approval. Within 90 days of receiving the list from the director, the board, after holding a hearing and considering the recommendations of the employers and employees who may be affected, shall do the following:

(1) Determine whether the substances listed are properly listed as hazardous substances pursuant to the criteria of Section 6382.

(2) Modify the list as necessary to achieve compliance with Section 6382.

(3) Approve the list of hazardous substances.

Upon receipt of the list approved by the board, the director shall adopt the list as a regulation pursuant to the procedures set forth in Section 6380. The inclusion or exclusion of any individual substance on the list of hazardous substances shall not be subject to Section 11346.2 or 11346.9 of the Government Code.

(b) Prior to the director's adoption of any additions to the list of hazardous substances pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 6382, the director shall submit the additions to the board for its approval. Within 60 days of receiving the additions from the director, the board, after holding a hearing and considering the recommendations of the employers and employees who may be affected, shall do the following:

(1) Determine whether the substances listed are properly listed as hazardous substances pursuant to the criteria of Section 6382.

(2) Modify the additions as necessary to achieve compliance with Section 6382.

(3) Approve the list of hazardous substances.

Upon receipt of the additions approved by the board, the director shall adopt the additions as a regulation pursuant to the procedures set forth in Section 6380. The inclusion or exclusion of any individual substance on the list of hazardous substances shall not be subject to Section 11346.2 or 11346.9 of the Government Code.

SEC. 78.5. Section 6603 of the Labor Code is amended to read:

6603. (a) The rules of practice and procedure adopted by the appeals board shall be consistent with Article 8 (commencing with Section 11435.05) of Chapter 4.5 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of, and Sections 11507, 11507.6, 11507.7, 11513, 11514, 11515, and 11516 of, the Government Code, and shall provide affected employees or representatives of affected employees an opportunity to participate as parties to a hearing under Section 6602.

(b) The superior courts shall have jurisdiction over contempt proceedings, as provided in Article 12 (commencing with Section

11455.10) of Chapter 4.5 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

SEC. 79. Section 105 is added to the Military and Veterans Code, to read:

105. Notwithstanding Section 11425.10 of the Government Code, Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 11400) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code does not apply to a hearing conducted by the Military Department under this code.

SEC. 80. Section 3066 is added to the Penal Code, to read:

3066. Notwithstanding Section 11425.10 of the Government Code, Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 11400) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code does not apply to a parole hearing or other adjudication concerning rights of an inmate or parolee conducted by the Department of Corrections or the Board of Prison Terms.

SEC. 81. Section 663.1 of the Public Resources Code is amended to read:

663.1. (a) For the purposes of this section, “ex parte communication” means any oral or written communication between a member of the board and an interested person about a matter within the board’s jurisdiction that does not occur in a public hearing, workshop, or other official proceeding, or on the official record of the proceeding on the matter.

(b) For purposes of this section, “a matter within the board’s jurisdiction” means any action on a reclamation plan or financial assurance appealed pursuant to subdivision (e) of Section 2770, any review of an order setting administrative penalties pursuant to Section 2774.2, or any review of an appeal pursuant to Section 2775.

(c) A board member or any person, other than a staff member of the board, department, or any other state agency, who is acting in his or her official capacity and who intends to influence the decision of the board on a matter within the board’s jurisdiction, shall not conduct an ex parte communication, unless the board member or the person who engages in the communication with the board member discloses that communication in one of the following ways:

(1) The board member or the person fully discloses the communication and makes public the ex parte communication by providing a full report of the communication to the executive officer or, if the communication occurs within seven days of the next board hearing, to the board on the record of the proceeding of that hearing.

(2) When two or more board members receive substantially the same written communication or receive the same oral communication from the same party on the same matter, one of the board members fully discloses the communication on behalf of the other board member or members who received the communication and requests in writing that it be placed in the board’s official record of the proceeding.

(d) (1) The board shall adopt standard disclosure forms for reporting ex parte communications which shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following information:

(A) The date, time, and location of the communication.

(B) The identity of the person or persons initiating and the person or persons receiving the communication.

(C) A complete description of the content of the communication, including the complete text of any written material that was part of the communication.

(2) The executive officer shall place in the public record any report of an ex parte communication.

(e) Communications shall cease to be ex parte communications when fully disclosed and placed in the board's official record.

(f) In addition to any other applicable penalty, a board member who knowingly violates this section is subject to a civil fine, not to exceed seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500). Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the court may award attorneys' fees and costs to the prevailing party.

(g) Notwithstanding Section 11425.10 of the Government Code, the ex parte communications provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (Article 7 (commencing with Section 11430.10) of Chapter 4.5 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code) do not apply to proceedings of the board under this code.

SEC. 82. Section 4204 of the Public Resources Code is amended to read:

4204. The director shall periodically review zones designated and rated pursuant to this article and, as necessary, shall revise zones or their ratings or repeal the designation of zones. Any revision of a zone or its rating or any repeal of a zone shall conform to the requirements of Section 4203. In addition, the revision or repeal of a zone may be petitioned pursuant to Sections 11340.6 and 11340.7 of the Government Code.

SEC. 82.5. Section 25513.3 is added to the Public Resources Code, to read:

25513.3. Notwithstanding Sections 11425.30 and 11430.10 of the Government Code, unless a party demonstrates other statutory grounds for disqualification, a person who has served as investigator or advocate in an adjudicative proceeding of the commission under this code may serve as a supervisor of the presiding officer or assist or advise the presiding officer in the same proceeding if the service, assistance, or advice occurs more than one year after the time the person served as investigator or advocate, provided the content of any advice is disclosed on the record and all parties have an opportunity to comment on the advice.

SEC. 83. Section 30329 is added to the Public Resources Code, to read:

30329. Notwithstanding Section 11425.10 of the Government Code, the ex parte communications provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (Article 7 (commencing with Section 11430.10) of Chapter 4.5 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code) do not apply to proceedings of the California Coastal Commission under this division.

SEC. 84. Section 40412 of the Public Resources Code is amended to read:

40412. (a) For the purposes of this section, “ex parte communication” means any oral or written communication concerning matters, other than purely procedural matters, under the board’s jurisdiction which are subject to a rollcall vote pursuant to Section 40510.

(b) No board member or any person, excepting a staff member of the board acting in his or her official capacity, who intends to influence the decision of a board member on a matter before the board, shall conduct an ex parte communication, except as follows:

(1) If an ex parte communication occurs, the board member shall notify the interested party that a full disclosure of the ex parte communication shall be entered in the board’s record.

(2) Communications cease to be ex parte communications when either of the following occurs:

(A) The board member or the person who engaged in the communication with the board member fully discloses the communication and requests in writing that it be placed in the board’s official record of the proceeding.

(B) When two or more board members receive substantially the same written communication, or are party to the same oral communication, from the same party on the same matter, and a single board member fully discloses the communication on behalf of the other board member or members who received the communication and requests in writing that it be placed in the board’s official record of the proceeding.

(c) Notwithstanding Section 11425.10 of the Government Code, the ex parte communications provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (Article 7 (commencing with Section 11430.10) of Chapter 4.5 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code) do not apply to proceedings of the board to which this section applies.

SEC. 85. Section 1701 of the Public Utilities Code is amended to read:

1701. (a) All hearings, investigations, and proceedings shall be governed by this part and by rules of practice and procedure adopted by the commission, and in the conduct thereof the technical rules of evidence need not be applied. No informality in any hearing, investigation, or proceeding or in the manner of taking testimony shall invalidate any order, decision or rule made, approved, or confirmed by the commission.

(b) Notwithstanding Section 11425.10 of the Government Code, Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 11400) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code does not apply to a hearing by the commission under this code.

SEC. 86. Section 1636 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:

1636. The county board of supervisors may appoint one or more assessment hearing officers or contract with the Office of Administrative Hearings for the services of an administrative law judge pursuant to Chapter 14 (commencing with Section 27720) of Part 3 of Division 2 of Title 3 of the Government Code to conduct hearings on any assessment protests filed under Article 1 (commencing with Section 1601) of this chapter and to make recommendations to the county board of equalization or assessment appeals board concerning the protests. Only persons meeting the qualifications prescribed by Section 1624 may be appointed as an assessment hearing officer.

SEC. 87. Section 19044 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:

19044. (a) If a protest is filed, the Franchise Tax Board shall reconsider the assessment of the deficiency and, if the taxpayer has so requested in his or her protest, shall grant the taxpayer or his or her authorized representatives an oral hearing. Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 11400) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code does not apply to a hearing under this subdivision.

(b) The Franchise Tax Board may act on the protest in whole or in part. In the event the Franchise Tax Board acts on the protest in part only, the remaining part of the protest shall continue to be under protest until the Franchise Tax Board acts on that part.

SEC. 87.5. Section 19084 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:

19084. (a) (1) Within five days after the day on which either a notice and demand for payment is mailed or issued pursuant to Section 19081, or notice and demand for a return and payment is mailed or issued pursuant to Section 19082, the Franchise Tax Board shall mail or issue the taxpayer a written statement of the information upon which the Franchise Tax Board relies in issuing that notice and demand.

(2) Within 30 days after the day on which the taxpayer is furnished the written statement described in paragraph (1), or within 30 days after the last day of the period within which the statement is required to be furnished, the taxpayer may petition the Franchise Tax Board to review whether its finding pursuant to Section 19081 or 19082 is reasonable under the circumstances, specifying the grounds on which the petition is based. The filing of a petition for review shall not operate to stay collection. Collection may be stayed only as

provided in Section 19083. A petition filed pursuant to this paragraph shall also be considered a protest filed pursuant to Section 19041 against the proposed additional tax.

(3) If a petition for review under paragraph (2) is not made within the 30-day period set forth in that paragraph, the finding of the Franchise Tax Board pursuant to Section 19081 or 19082 is final.

(4) After a petition for review is filed under paragraph (2), the Franchise Tax Board shall determine whether or not the issuance of notice and demand under Section 19081 or 19082 is reasonable under the circumstances. In making this determination, the Franchise Tax Board shall grant the taxpayer or authorized representative an oral hearing if the taxpayer has so requested in the petition. Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 11400) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code does not apply to a hearing under this paragraph. The burden of proof with respect to whether a jeopardy exists as to collection or an assessment is upon the Franchise Tax Board.

(5) The Franchise Tax Board shall make the determination under paragraph (4) within 90 days of the filing of the petition for review unless the taxpayer requests, in writing, additional time.

(6) In making the determination required by paragraph (4), the Franchise Tax Board shall consider all relevant factors, including, but not limited to, the likelihood that collection will be jeopardized, the assets of the taxpayer, and the amount of the assessment as it relates to whether jeopardy status exists. The burden of proof as to the amount of the assessment for purposes of determining jeopardy status is upon the taxpayer.

(b) (1) Within 60 days after the earlier of the following days, the taxpayer may appeal the determination to the State Board of Equalization in the manner provided in Section 19085:

(A) The day the Franchise Tax Board notifies the taxpayer of the determination described in paragraph (4) of subdivision (a).

(B) One day after the time period prescribed by paragraph (5) of subdivision (a) for the Franchise Tax Board to make its determination.

(2) If an appeal is not filed before the expiration of the time periods, the Franchise Tax Board's determination is final. Filing of an appeal shall not operate to stay collection. Collection may be stayed only as provided in Section 19083.

(3) Within 60 days after an appeal is filed under paragraph (1), the board shall determine whether the issuance of notice and demand under Section 19081 or 19082 is reasonable under the circumstances. The burden of proof with respect to whether a jeopardy exists as to collection or an assessment is upon the Franchise Tax Board.

(4) If the board determines that a jeopardy status does not apply to all or part of the assessment, the board may modify the amount of the assessment to which the jeopardy attaches. If the board does not

act within the time period provided in paragraph (3) as modified by paragraph (6), the board will be deemed to have denied the taxpayer's appeal.

(5) In making the determination required by paragraph (3), the board shall consider all relevant factors, including, but not limited to, the likelihood that collection will be jeopardized, the assets of the taxpayer, and the amount of the assessment as it relates to whether jeopardy status exists. The burden of proof as to the amount of the assessment for purposes of determining jeopardy status is upon the taxpayer.

(6) If either party requests an extension of the 60-day period set forth in paragraph (3) and establishes reasonable grounds why the extension should be granted, the board may grant an extension of not more than 30 additional days.

(c) (1) Within 60 days after the earlier of the following days, either party may bring a civil action against the other in superior court for a judicial determination as to whether or not the issuance of the notice and demand under Section 19081 or 19082 is reasonable under the circumstances:

(A) The day the board notifies the taxpayer of its determination described in paragraph (3), as modified by paragraph (6), of subdivision (b).

(B) If the board fails to make a timely determination, then one day after the time prescribed for the board to make its determination.

(2) If a civil action under this subdivision is not commenced within the 60-day period set forth in paragraph (1), the board's determination is final. The filing of the civil action shall not operate to stay collection. Collection shall be stayed only as provided by Section 19083.

(3) Within 60 days after proper service is made, the superior court shall determine whether the issuance of notice and demand under Section 19081 or 19082 is reasonable under the circumstances. The burden of proof with respect to whether a jeopardy exists as to collection or an assessment is upon the Franchise Tax Board.

(4) If the court determines that a jeopardy status does not apply to all or part of the assessment, the court may modify the amount of the assessment to which the jeopardy attaches.

(5) In making the determination required by paragraph (3), the superior court shall consider all relevant factors, including, but not limited to, the likelihood that collection will be jeopardized, the assets of the taxpayer, and the amount of the assessment as it relates to whether jeopardy status exists. The burden of proof as to the amount of the assessment for purposes of determining jeopardy status is upon the taxpayer.

(6) If either party in the action requests an extension of the 60-day period set forth in paragraph (3) of subdivision (c) and establishes reasonable grounds why the extension should be granted, the

superior court may grant an extension of not more than 30 additional days.

(7) Actions filed pursuant to this section shall be filed in the Superior Court of the County of Los Angeles, the City and County of San Francisco, the County of San Diego, or the County of Sacramento. Sections 19387 and 19389 shall apply to those actions.

(8) The determination made by a superior court under this section shall be final and conclusive and shall not be reviewed by any other court.

SEC. 88. Section 409 of the Unemployment Insurance Code is amended to read:

409. The chairperson shall assign cases before the board to any two members of the board for consideration and decision. Assignments by the chairperson of members to the cases shall be rotated so as to equalize the workload of the members, but with the composition of the members so assigned being varied and changed to assure that there shall never be a fixed and continuous composition of members. Except as otherwise provided, the decision of the two members assigned the case shall be the decision of the appeals board. In the event that the two members do not concur in the decision, the chairperson or another member of the board designated by the chairperson shall be assigned to the panel and shall resolve the impasse. A case shall be considered and decided by the appeals board acting as a whole at the request of any member of the appeals board.

The appeals board shall meet as a whole when the chairperson may direct to consider and pass on any matters that the chairperson may bring before it, and to consider and decide cases that present issues of first impression or that will enable the appeals board to achieve uniformity of decisions by the respective members.

The appeals board, acting as a whole, may designate certain of its decisions as precedents. Precedent decisions of the appeals board are subject to Section 11425.60 of the Government Code. The appeals board, acting as a whole, may, on its own motion, reconsider a previously issued decision solely to determine whether or not the decision shall be designated as a precedent decision. Decisions of the appeals board acting as a whole shall be by a majority vote of its members. The director and the appeals board administrative law judges shall be controlled by those precedents except as modified by judicial review. If the appeals board issues decisions other than those designated as precedent decisions, anything incorporated in those decisions shall be physically attached to and be made a part of the decisions. The appeals board may make a reasonable charge as it deems necessary to defray the costs of publication and distribution of its precedent decisions and index of precedent decisions.

SEC. 89. Section 3066 of the Vehicle Code is amended to read:

3066. (a) Upon receiving a notice of protest pursuant to Section 3060, 3062, 3064, or 3065, the board shall fix a time, which shall be

within 60 days of the order, and place of hearing, and shall send by registered mail a copy of the order to the franchisor, the protesting franchisee, and all individuals and groups which have requested notification by the board of protests and decisions of the board. Except in any case involving a franchisee who deals exclusively in motorcycles, the board or its secretary may, upon a showing of good cause, accelerate or postpone the date initially established for a hearing, but in no event shall the hearing be rescheduled more than 90 days after the board's initial order. For the purpose of accelerating or postponing a hearing date, "good cause" includes, but is not limited to, the effects upon, and any irreparable harm to, the parties or interested persons or groups if the request for a change in hearing date is not granted. The board, or a hearing officer designated by the board, shall hear and consider the oral and documented evidence introduced by the parties and other interested individuals and groups, and the board shall make its decision solely on the record so made. Sections 11507.6, 11507.7, 11511, 11513, 11514, 11515, and 11517 of the Government Code apply to these proceedings.

(b) In any hearing on a protest filed pursuant to Section 3060 or 3062, the franchisor shall have the burden of proof to establish that there is good cause to modify, replace, terminate, or refuse to continue a franchise. The franchisee shall have the burden of proof to establish that there is good cause not to enter into a franchise establishing or relocating an additional motor vehicle dealership.

(c) In any hearing on a protest filed pursuant to Section 3064 or 3065, the franchisee shall have the burden to establish that the schedule of compensation or the warranty reimbursement schedule is not reasonable.

(d) A member of the board who is a new motor vehicle dealer may not participate in, hear, comment, or advise other members upon, or decide, any matter involving a protest filed pursuant to this article.

SEC. 90. Section 11728 of the Vehicle Code is amended to read:

11728. As part of a compromise settlement agreement entered into pursuant to Section 11707 or 11808.5, the department may assess a monetary penalty of not more than two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) per violation and impose a license suspension of not more than 30 days for any dealer who violates subdivision (r) of Section 11713. The extent of the penalties shall be based on the nature of the violation and effect of the violation on the purposes of this article. Except for the penalty limits provided for in Sections 11707 and 11808.5, all the provisions governing compromise settlement agreements for dealers, salespersons, and wholesalers apply to this section, and Section 11415.60 of the Government Code does not apply.

SEC. 91. Section 14112 of the Vehicle Code is amended to read:

14112. (a) All matters in a hearing not covered by this chapter shall be governed, as far as applicable, by Chapter 5 (commencing

with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

(b) Subdivision (a) of Section 11425.30 of the Government Code does not apply to a proceeding for issuance, denial, revocation, or suspension of a driver's license pursuant to this division. The Department of Motor Vehicles shall study the effect of that subdivision on proceedings involving special certificates issued pursuant to Sections 12517 to 12527, inclusive, and shall report to the Legislature by December 31, 1999, with recommendations concerning experience with its application in those proceedings.

SEC. 92. Section 1778 is added to the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

1778. Notwithstanding Section 11425.10 of the Government Code, Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 11400) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code does not apply to a parole hearing or other adjudication concerning rights of a person committed to the control of the Youth Authority conducted by the Youth Authority or the Youthful Offender Parole Board.

SEC. 93. Section 3158 is added to the Welfare and Institutions Code, to read:

3158. Notwithstanding Section 11425.10 of the Government Code, Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 11400) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code does not apply to a release hearing or other adjudication concerning rights of a person committed to the custody of the Director of Corrections conducted by the Narcotic Addiction Evaluation Authority.

SEC. 94. Section 4689.5 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:

4689.5. (a) Proceeding for the termination, or denial of vendorization as a family home agency or family home pursuant to Section 4689.4 shall be conducted in accordance with Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, and the State Department of Developmental Services shall have all the powers granted by Chapter 5. In the event of conflict between this section and Chapter 5, Chapter 5 shall prevail.

(b) In all proceedings conducted in accordance with this section, the standard of proof to be applied shall be a preponderance of the evidence.

(c) The hearing shall be held within 90 calendar days after receipt of the notice of defense, unless a continuance of the hearing is granted by the department or the administrative law judge. When the matter has been set for hearing, only the administrative law judge may grant a continuance of the hearing. The administrative law judge may grant a continuance of the hearing, but only upon finding the existence of one or more of the following:

(1) The death or incapacitating illness of a party, a representative or attorney of a party, a witness to an essential fact, or of the parent, child, or member of the household of that person, when it is not feasible to substitute another representative, attorney, or witness because of the proximity of the hearing date.

(2) Lack of notice of hearing as provided in Section 11509 of the Government Code.

(3) A material change in the status of the case where a change in the parties or pleadings requires postponement, or an executed settlement or stipulated findings of fact obviate the need for hearing. A partial amendment of the pleadings shall not be good cause for continuance to the extent that the unamended portion of the pleadings is ready to be heard.

(4) A stipulation for continuance signed by all parties or their authorized representatives that is communicated with the request for continuance to the administrative law judge no later than 25 business days before the hearing.

(5) The substitution of the representative or attorney of a party upon showing that the substitution is required.

(6) The unavailability of a party, representative, or attorney of a party, or witness to an essential fact due to a conflicting and required appearance in a judicial matter if when the hearing date was set, the person did not know and could neither anticipate nor at any time avoid the conflict, and the conflict with request for continuance is immediately communicated to the administrative law judge.

(7) The unavailability of a party, a representative or attorney of a party, or a material witness due to an unavoidable emergency.

(8) Failure by a party to comply with a timely discovery request if the continuance request is made by the party who requested the discovery.

(d) In addition to the witness fees and mileage provided by Section 11450.40 of the Government Code, the department may pay actual, necessary, and reasonable expenses in an amount not to exceed the per diem allowance payable to a nonrepresented state employee on travel status. The department may pay witness expenses in advance of the hearing.

SEC. 95. Section 11350.6 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, as amended by Section 3.6 of Chapter 906 of the Statutes of 1994, is amended to read:

11350.6. (a) As used in this section:

(1) "Applicant" means any person applying for issuance or renewal of a license.

(2) "Board" means any entity specified in Section 101 of the Business and Professions Code, the entities referred to in Sections 1000 and 3600 of the Business and Professions Code, the State Bar, the Department of Real Estate, and any other state commission, department, committee, examiner, or agency that issues a license,

certificate, credential, or registration authorizing a person to engage in a business, occupation, or profession.

(3) "Certified list" means a list provided by the district attorney to the State Department of Social Services in which the district attorney verifies, under penalty of perjury, that the names contained therein are support obligors found to be out of compliance with a judgment or order for support in a case being enforced under Title IV-D of the Social Security Act.

(4) "Compliance with a judgment or order for support" means that, as set forth in a judgment or order for child or family support, the obligor is no more than 30 calendar days in arrears in making payments in full for current support, in making periodic payments in full, whether court-ordered or by agreement with the district attorney, on a support arrearage, or in making periodic payments in full, whether court-ordered or by agreement with the district attorney, on a judgment for reimbursement for public assistance, or has obtained a judicial finding that equitable estoppel as provided in statute or case law precludes enforcement of the order. The district attorney is authorized to use this section to enforce orders for spousal support only when the district attorney is also enforcing a related child support obligation owed to the obligee parent by the same obligor, pursuant to Sections 11475.1 and 11475.2.

(5) "License" includes membership in the State Bar, and a certificate, permit, registration, or any other authorization issued by a board that allows a person to engage in a business, occupation, or profession, or to operate a commercial motor vehicle.

(6) "Licensee" means any person holding a license, certificate, permit, registration, or other authorization issued by a board, to engage in a business, occupation, or profession, or a commercial driver's license as defined in Section 15210 of the Vehicle Code.

(b) The district attorney shall maintain a list of those persons included in a case being enforced under Title IV-D of the Social Security Act against whom a support order or judgment has been rendered by, or registered in, a court of this state, and who are not in compliance with that order or judgment. The district attorney shall submit a certified list with the names, social security numbers, and last known addresses of these persons and the name, address, and telephone number of the district attorney who certified the list to the State Department of Social Services. The district attorney shall verify, under penalty of perjury, that the persons listed are subject to an order or judgment for the payment of support and that these persons are not in compliance with the order or judgment. The district attorney shall submit to the State Department of Social Services an updated certified list on a monthly basis.

(c) The State Department of Social Services shall consolidate the certified lists received from the district attorneys and, within 30 calendar days of receipt, shall provide a copy of the consolidated list

to each board which is responsible for the regulation of licenses, as specified in this section.

(d) On or before November 1, 1992, or as soon thereafter as economically feasible, as determined by the State Department of Social Services, all boards subject to this section shall implement procedures to accept and process the list provided by the State Department of Social Services, in accordance with this section.

(e) (1) Promptly after receiving the certified consolidated list from the State Department of Social Services, and prior to the issuance or renewal of a license, each board shall determine whether the applicant is on the most recent certified consolidated list provided by the State Department of Social Services. The board shall have the authority to withhold issuance or renewal of the license of any applicant on the list.

(2) If an applicant is on the list, the board shall immediately serve notice as specified in subdivision (f) on the applicant of the board's intent to withhold issuance or renewal of the license. The notice shall be made personally or by mail to the applicant's last known mailing address on file with the board. Service by mail shall be complete in accordance with Section 1013 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

(A) The board shall issue a temporary license valid for a period of 150 days to any applicant whose name is on the certified list if the applicant is otherwise eligible for a license.

(B) The 150-day time period for a temporary license shall not be extended. Only one temporary license shall be issued during a regular license term and it shall coincide with the first 150 days of that license term. As this paragraph applies to commercial driver licenses, "license term" shall be deemed to be 12 months from the date the application fee is received by the Department of Motor Vehicles. A license for the full or remainder of the license term shall be issued or renewed only upon compliance with this section.

(C) In the event that a license or application for a license or the renewal of a license is denied pursuant to this section, any funds paid by the applicant or licensee shall not be refunded by the board.

(3) (A) The State Department of Social Services may, when it is economically feasible for the department and the boards to do so as determined by the department, in cases where the department is aware that certain child support obligors listed on the certified lists have been out of compliance with a judgment or order for support for more than four months, provide a supplemental list of these obligors to each board with which the department has an interagency agreement to implement this paragraph. Upon request by the department, the licenses of these obligors shall be subject to suspension, provided that the licenses would not otherwise be eligible for renewal within six months from the date of the request by the department. The board shall have the authority to suspend the license of any licensee on this supplemental list.

(B) If a licensee is on a supplemental list, the board shall immediately serve notice as specified in subdivision (f) on the licensee that his or her license will be automatically suspended 150 days after notice is served, unless compliance with this section is achieved. The notice shall be made personally or by mail to the licensee's last known mailing address on file with the board. Service by mail shall be complete in accordance with Section 1013 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

(C) The 150-day notice period shall not be extended.

(D) In the event that any license is suspended pursuant to this section, any funds paid by the licensee shall not be refunded by the board.

(E) This paragraph shall not apply to licenses subject to annual renewal or annual fee.

(f) Notices shall be developed by each board in accordance with guidelines provided by the State Department of Social Services and subject to approval by the State Department of Social Services. The notice shall include the address and telephone number of the district attorney who submitted the name on the certified list, and shall emphasize the necessity of obtaining a release from that district attorney's office as a condition for the issuance, renewal, or continued valid status of a license or licenses.

(1) In the case of applicants not subject to paragraph (3) of subdivision (e), the notice shall inform the applicant that the board shall issue a temporary license, as provided in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (e), for 150 calendar days if the applicant is otherwise eligible and that upon expiration of that time period the license will be denied unless the board has received a release from the district attorney who submitted the name on the certified list.

(2) In the case of licensees named on a supplemental list, the notice shall inform the licensee that his or her license will continue in its existing status for no more than 150 calendar days from the date of mailing or service of the notice and thereafter will be suspended indefinitely unless, during the 150-day notice period, the board has received a release from the district attorney who submitted the name on the certified list. Additionally, the notice shall inform the licensee that any license suspended under this section will remain so until the expiration of the remaining license term, unless the board receives a release along with applications and fees, if applicable, to reinstate the license during the license term.

(3) The notice shall also inform the applicant that if an application is denied or a license is suspended pursuant to this section, any funds paid by the applicant or licensee shall not be refunded by the board. The State Department of Social Services shall also develop a form that the applicant shall use to request a review by the district

attorney. A copy of this form shall be included with every notice sent pursuant to this subdivision.

(g) Each district attorney shall maintain review procedures consistent with this section to allow an applicant to have the underlying arrearage and any relevant defenses investigated, to provide an applicant information on the process of obtaining a modification of a support order, or to provide an applicant assistance in the establishment of a payment schedule on arrearages if the circumstances so warrant.

(h) If the applicant wishes to challenge the submission of his or her name on the certified list, the applicant shall make a timely written request for review on the form specified in subdivision (f) to the district attorney who certified the applicant's name. The district attorney shall, within 75 days of receipt of the written request, inform the applicant in writing of his or her findings upon completion of the review. The district attorney shall immediately send a release to the appropriate board and the applicant, if any of the following conditions are met:

(1) The applicant is found to be in compliance or negotiates an agreement with the district attorney for a payment schedule on arrearages or reimbursement.

(2) The applicant has submitted a request for review, but the district attorney will be unable to complete the review and send notice of his or her findings to the applicant within 75 days. This paragraph applies only if the delay in completing the review process is not the result of the applicant's failure to act in a reasonable, timely, and diligent manner upon receiving notice from the board that his or her name is on the list.

(3) The applicant has filed and served a request for judicial review pursuant to this section, but a resolution of that review will not be made within 150 days of the date of service of notice pursuant to subdivision (f). This paragraph applies only if the delay in completing the judicial review process is not the result of the applicant's failure to act in a reasonable, timely, and diligent manner upon receiving the district attorney's notice of his or her findings.

(4) The applicant has obtained a judicial finding of compliance as defined in this section.

(i) An applicant is required to act with diligence in responding to notices from the board and the district attorney with the recognition that the temporary license will lapse or the license suspension will go into effect after 150 days and that the district attorney and, where appropriate, the court must have time to act within that period. An applicant's delay in acting, without good cause, which directly results in the inability of the district attorney to complete a review of the applicant's request or the court to hear the request for judicial review within the 150-day period shall not constitute the diligence required under this section which would justify the issuance of a release.

(j) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the district attorney shall not issue a release if the applicant is not in compliance with the judgment or order for support. The district attorney shall notify the applicant in writing that the applicant may, by filing an order to show cause or notice of motion, request any or all of the following:

(1) Judicial review of the district attorney's decision not to issue a release.

(2) A judicial determination of compliance.

(3) A modification of the support judgment or order.

The notice shall also contain the name and address of the court in which the applicant shall file the order to show cause or notice of motion and inform the applicant that his or her name shall remain on the certified list if the applicant does not timely request judicial review. The applicant shall comply with all statutes and rules of court regarding orders to show cause and notices of motion.

Nothing in this section shall be deemed to limit an applicant from filing an order to show cause or notice of motion to modify a support judgment or order or to fix a payment schedule on arrearages accruing under a support judgment or order or to obtain a court finding of compliance with a judgment or order for support.

(k) The request for judicial review of the district attorney's decision shall state the grounds for which review is requested and judicial review shall be limited to those stated grounds. The court shall hold an evidentiary hearing within 20 calendar days of the filing of the request for review. Judicial review of the district attorney's decision shall be limited to a determination of each of the following issues:

(1) Whether there is a support judgment, order, or payment schedule on arrearages or reimbursement.

(2) Whether the petitioner is the obligor covered by the support judgment or order.

(3) Whether the support obligor is or is not in compliance with judgment or order of support.

(4) The extent to which the needs of the obligor, taking into account the obligor's payment history and the current circumstances of both the obligor and the obligee, warrant a conditional release as described in this subdivision.

The request for judicial review shall be served by the applicant upon the district attorney who submitted the applicant's name on the certified list within seven calendar days of the filing of the petition. The court has the authority to uphold the action, unconditionally release the license, or conditionally release the license.

If the judicial review results in a finding by the court that the obligor is in compliance with the judgment or order for support, the district attorney shall immediately send a release in accordance with subdivision (h) to the appropriate board and the applicant. If the

judicial review results in a finding by the court that the needs of the obligor warrant a conditional release, the court shall make findings of fact stating the basis for the release and the payment necessary to satisfy the unrestricted issuance or renewal of the license without prejudice to a later judicial determination of the amount of support arrearages, including interest, and shall specify payment terms, compliance with which are necessary to allow the release to remain in effect.

(l) The State Department of Social Services shall prescribe release forms for use by district attorneys. When the obligor is in compliance, the district attorney shall mail to the applicant and the appropriate board a release stating that the applicant is in compliance. The receipt of a release shall serve to notify the applicant and the board that, for the purposes of this section, the applicant is in compliance with the judgment or order for support.

If the district attorney determines subsequent to the issuance of a release that the applicant is once again not in compliance with a judgment or order for support, or with the terms of repayment as described in this subdivision, the district attorney may notify the board, the obligor, and the State Department of Social Services in a format prescribed by the State Department of Social Services that the obligor is not in compliance.

The State Department of Social Services may, when it is economically feasible for the department and the boards to develop an automated process for complying with this subdivision, notify the boards in a manner prescribed by the department, that the obligor is once again not in compliance. Upon receipt of this notice, the board shall immediately notify the obligor on a form prescribed by the department that the obligor's license will be suspended on a specific date, and this date shall be no longer than 30 days from the date the form is mailed. The obligor shall be further notified that the license will remain suspended until a new release is issued in accordance with subdivision (h). Nothing in this section shall be deemed to limit the obligor from seeking judicial review of suspension pursuant to the procedures described in this subdivision.

(m) The State Department of Social Services may enter into interagency agreements with the state agencies that have responsibility for the administration of boards necessary to implement this section, to the extent that it is cost-effective to implement this section. These agreements shall provide for the receipt by the other state agencies and boards of federal funds to cover that portion of costs allowable in federal law and regulation and incurred by the state agencies and boards in implementing this section. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, revenue generated by a board or state agency shall be used to fund the nonfederal share of costs incurred pursuant to this section. These agreements shall provide that boards shall reimburse the State

Department of Social Services for the nonfederal share of costs incurred by the department in implementing this section. The boards shall reimburse the State Department of Social Services for the nonfederal share of costs incurred pursuant to this section from moneys collected from applicants.

(n) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in order for the boards subject to this section to be reimbursed for the costs incurred in administering its provisions, the boards may, with the approval of the appropriate department director, levy on all licensees and applicants a surcharge on any fee or fees collected pursuant to law, or, alternatively, with the approval of the appropriate department director, levy on the applicants or licensees named on a certified list or supplemental list, a special fee.

(o) The process described in subdivision (h) shall constitute the sole administrative remedy for contesting the issuance of a temporary license or the denial or suspension of a license under this section. The procedures specified in the administrative adjudication provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 11400) and Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code) shall not apply to the denial, suspension, or failure to issue or renew a license or the issuance of a temporary license pursuant to this section.

(p) In furtherance of the public policy of increasing child support enforcement and collections, on or before November 1, 1995, the State Department of Social Services shall make a report to the Legislature and the Governor based on data collected by the boards and the district attorneys in a format prescribed by the State Department of Social Services. The report shall contain all of the following:

(1) The number of delinquent obligors certified by district attorneys under this section.

(2) The number of support obligors who also were applicants or licensees subject to this section.

(3) The number of new licenses and renewals that were delayed, temporary licenses issued, and licenses suspended subject to this section and the number of new licenses and renewals granted and licenses reinstated following board receipt of releases as provided by subdivision (h) by May 1, 1995.

(4) The costs incurred in the implementation and enforcement of this section.

(q) Any board receiving an inquiry as to the licensed status of an applicant who has had a license denied or suspended under this section or has been granted a temporary license under this section shall respond only that the license was denied or suspended or the temporary license was issued pursuant to this section. Information

collected pursuant to this section shall be subject to the Information Practices Act (Section 1798.76 of the Civil Code).

(r) Any rules and regulations issued pursuant to this section may be adopted as emergency regulations in accordance with the rulemaking provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code). The adoption of these regulations shall be deemed an emergency and necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, or general welfare. The regulations shall become effective immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

(s) The State Department of Social Services and boards, as appropriate, shall adopt regulations necessary to implement this section.

(t) The Judicial Council shall develop the forms necessary to implement this section, except as provided in subdivisions (f) and (l).

(u) The release or other use of information received by a board pursuant to this section, except as authorized by this section, is punishable as a misdemeanor.

(v) If any provision of this section or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, that invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this section which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this section are severable.

(w) All rights to administrative and judicial review afforded by this section to an applicant shall also be afforded to a licensee.

SEC. 95.5. Section 11350.6 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, as amended by Section 3.6 of Chapter 906 of the Statutes of 1994, is amended to read:

11350.6. (a) As used in this section:

(1) "Applicant" means any person applying for issuance or renewal of a license.

(2) "Board" means any entity specified in Section 101 of the Business and Professions Code, the entities referred to in Sections 1000 and 3600 of the Business and Professions Code, the State Bar, the Department of Real Estate, the Department of Motor Vehicles, the Secretary of State, and any other state commission, department, committee, examiner, or agency that issues a license, certificate, credential, or registration authorizing a person to engage in a business, occupation, or profession.

(3) "Certified list" means a list provided by the district attorney to the State Department of Social Services in which the district attorney verifies, under penalty of perjury, that the names contained therein are support obligors found to be out of compliance with a judgment or order for support in a case being enforced under Title IV-D of the Social Security Act.

(4) “Compliance with a judgment or order for support” means that, as set forth in a judgment or order for child or family support, the obligor is no more than 30 calendar days in arrears in making payments in full for current support, in making periodic payments in full, whether court-ordered or by agreement with the district attorney, on a support arrearage, or in making periodic payments in full, whether court-ordered or by agreement with the district attorney, on a judgment for reimbursement for public assistance, or has obtained a judicial finding that equitable estoppel as provided in statute or case law precludes enforcement of the order. The district attorney is authorized to use this section to enforce orders for spousal support only when the district attorney is also enforcing a related child support obligation owed to the obligee parent by the same obligor, pursuant to Sections 11475.1 and 11475.2.

(5) “License” includes membership in the State Bar, and a certificate, permit, registration, or any other authorization issued by a board that allows a person to engage in a business, occupation, or profession, or to operate a commercial motor vehicle, including appointment and commission by the Secretary of State as a notary public. “License” also includes any driver’s license issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles.

(6) “Licensee” means any person holding a license, certificate, permit, registration, or other authorization issued by a board, to engage in a business, occupation, or profession, or a commercial driver’s license as defined in Section 15210 of the Vehicle Code, including appointment and commission by the Secretary of State as a notary public. “License” also includes any driver’s license issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles.

(b) The district attorney shall maintain a list of those persons included in a case being enforced under Title IV-D of the Social Security Act against whom a support order or judgment has been rendered by, or registered in, a court of this state, and who are not in compliance with that order or judgment. The district attorney shall submit a certified list with the names, social security numbers, and last known addresses of these persons and the name, address, and telephone number of the district attorney who certified the list to the State Department of Social Services. The district attorney shall verify, under penalty of perjury, that the persons listed are subject to an order or judgment for the payment of support and that these persons are not in compliance with the order or judgment. The district attorney shall submit to the State Department of Social Services an updated certified list on a monthly basis.

(c) The State Department of Social Services shall consolidate the certified lists received from the district attorneys and, within 30 calendar days of receipt, shall provide a copy of the consolidated list to each board which is responsible for the regulation of licenses, as specified in this section.

(d) On or before November 1, 1992, or as soon thereafter as economically feasible, as determined by the State Department of Social Services, all boards subject to this section shall implement procedures to accept and process the list provided by the State Department of Social Services, in accordance with this section.

(e) (1) Promptly after receiving the certified consolidated list from the State Department of Social Services, and prior to the issuance or renewal of a license, each board shall determine whether the applicant is on the most recent certified consolidated list provided by the State Department of Social Services. The board shall have the authority to withhold issuance or renewal of the license of any applicant on the list.

(2) If an applicant is on the list, the board shall immediately serve notice as specified in subdivision (f) on the applicant of the board's intent to withhold issuance or renewal of the license. The notice shall be made personally or by mail to the applicant's last known mailing address on file with the board. Service by mail shall be complete in accordance with Section 1013 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

(A) The board shall issue a temporary license valid for a period of 150 days to any applicant whose name is on the certified list if the applicant is otherwise eligible for a license.

(B) Except as provided in subparagraph (D), the 150-day time period for a temporary license shall not be extended. Except as provided in subparagraph (D), only one temporary license shall be issued during a regular license term and it shall coincide with the first 150 days of that license term. As this paragraph applies to commercial driver's licenses, "license term" shall be deemed to be 12 months from the date the application fee is received by the Department of Motor Vehicles. A license for the full or remainder of the license term shall be issued or renewed only upon compliance with this section.

(C) In the event that a license or application for a license or the renewal of a license is denied pursuant to this section, any funds paid by the applicant or licensee shall not be refunded by the board.

(D) This paragraph shall apply only in the case of a driver's license, other than a commercial driver's license. Upon the request of the district attorney or by order of the court upon a showing of good cause, the board shall extend a 150-day temporary license for a period not to exceed 150 extra days.

(3) (A) The State Department of Social Services may, when it is economically feasible for the department and the boards to do so as determined by the department, in cases where the department is aware that certain child support obligors listed on the certified lists have been out of compliance with a judgment or order for support for more than four months, provide a supplemental list of these obligors to each board with which the department has an interagency agreement to implement this paragraph. Upon request by the department, the licenses of these obligors shall be subject to

suspension, provided that the licenses would not otherwise be eligible for renewal within six months from the date of the request by the department. The board shall have the authority to suspend the license of any licensee on this supplemental list.

(B) If a licensee is on a supplemental list, the board shall immediately serve notice as specified in subdivision (f) on the licensee that his or her license will be automatically suspended 150 days after notice is served, unless compliance with this section is achieved. The notice shall be made personally or by mail to the licensee's last known mailing address on file with the board. Service by mail shall be complete in accordance with Section 1013 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

(C) The 150-day notice period shall not be extended.

(D) In the event that any license is suspended pursuant to this section, any funds paid by the licensee shall not be refunded by the board.

(E) This paragraph shall not apply to licenses subject to annual renewal or annual fee.

(f) Notices shall be developed by each board in accordance with guidelines provided by the State Department of Social Services and subject to approval by the State Department of Social Services. The notice shall include the address and telephone number of the district attorney who submitted the name on the certified list, and shall emphasize the necessity of obtaining a release from that district attorney's office as a condition for the issuance, renewal, or continued valid status of a license or licenses.

(1) In the case of applicants not subject to paragraph (3) of subdivision (e), the notice shall inform the applicant that the board shall issue a temporary license, as provided in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (e), for 150 calendar days if the applicant is otherwise eligible and that upon expiration of that time period the license will be denied unless the board has received a release from the district attorney who submitted the name on the certified list.

(2) In the case of licensees named on a supplemental list, the notice shall inform the licensee that his or her license will continue in its existing status for no more than 150 calendar days from the date of mailing or service of the notice and thereafter will be suspended indefinitely unless, during the 150-day notice period, the board has received a release from the district attorney who submitted the name on the certified list. Additionally, the notice shall inform the licensee that any license suspended under this section will remain so until the expiration of the remaining license term, unless the board receives a release along with applications and fees, if applicable, to reinstate the license during the license term.

(3) The notice shall also inform the applicant or licensee that if an application is denied or a license is suspended pursuant to this

section, any funds paid by the applicant or licensee shall not be refunded by the board. The State Department of Social Services shall also develop a form that the applicant shall use to request a review by the district attorney. A copy of this form shall be included with every notice sent pursuant to this subdivision.

(g) (1) Each district attorney shall maintain review procedures consistent with this section to allow an applicant to have the underlying arrearage and any relevant defenses investigated, to provide an applicant information on the process of obtaining a modification of a support order, or to provide an applicant assistance in the establishment of a payment schedule on arrearages if the circumstances so warrant.

(2) It is the intent of the Legislature that a court or district attorney, when determining an appropriate payment schedule for arrearages, base its decision on the facts of the particular case and the priority of payment of child support over other debts. The payment schedule shall also recognize that certain expenses may be essential to enable an obligor to be employed. Therefore, in reaching its decision, the court or the district attorney shall consider both of these goals in setting a payment schedule for arrearages.

(h) If the applicant wishes to challenge the submission of his or her name on the certified list, the applicant shall make a timely written request for review on the form specified in subdivision (f) to the district attorney who certified the applicant's name. The district attorney shall, within 75 days of receipt of the written request, inform the applicant in writing of his or her findings upon completion of the review. The district attorney shall immediately send a release to the appropriate board and the applicant, if any of the following conditions are met:

(1) The applicant is found to be in compliance or negotiates an agreement with the district attorney for a payment schedule on arrearages or reimbursement.

(2) The applicant has submitted a request for review, but the district attorney will be unable to complete the review and send notice of his or her findings to the applicant within 75 days. This paragraph applies only if the delay in completing the review process is not the result of the applicant's failure to act in a reasonable, timely, and diligent manner upon receiving notice from the board that his or her name is on the list.

(3) The applicant has filed and served a request for judicial review pursuant to this section, but a resolution of that review will not be made within 150 days of the date of service of notice pursuant to subdivision (f). This paragraph applies only if the delay in completing the judicial review process is not the result of the applicant's failure to act in a reasonable, timely, and diligent manner upon receiving the district attorney's notice of his or her findings.

(4) The applicant has obtained a judicial finding of compliance as defined in this section.

(i) An applicant is required to act with diligence in responding to notices from the board and the district attorney with the recognition that the temporary license will lapse or the license suspension will go into effect after 150 days and that the district attorney and, where appropriate, the court must have time to act within that period. An applicant's delay in acting, without good cause, which directly results in the inability of the district attorney to complete a review of the applicant's request or the court to hear the request for judicial review within the 150-day period shall not constitute the diligence required under this section which would justify the issuance of a release.

(j) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the district attorney shall not issue a release if the applicant is not in compliance with the judgment or order for support. The district attorney shall notify the applicant in writing that the applicant may, by filing an order to show cause or notice of motion, request any or all of the following:

(1) Judicial review of the district attorney's decision not to issue a release.

(2) A judicial determination of compliance.

(3) A modification of the support judgment or order.

The notice shall also contain the name and address of the court in which the applicant shall file the order to show cause or notice of motion and inform the applicant that his or her name shall remain on the certified list if the applicant does not timely request judicial review. The applicant shall comply with all statutes and rules of court regarding orders to show cause and notices of motion.

Nothing in this section shall be deemed to limit an applicant from filing an order to show cause or notice of motion to modify a support judgment or order or to fix a payment schedule on arrearages accruing under a support judgment or order or to obtain a court finding of compliance with a judgment or order for support.

(k) The request for judicial review of the district attorney's decision shall state the grounds for which review is requested and judicial review shall be limited to those stated grounds. The court shall hold an evidentiary hearing within 20 calendar days of the filing of the request for review. Judicial review of the district attorney's decision shall be limited to a determination of each of the following issues:

(1) Whether there is a support judgment, order, or payment schedule on arrearages or reimbursement.

(2) Whether the petitioner is the obligor covered by the support judgment or order.

(3) Whether the support obligor is or is not in compliance with judgment or order of support.

(4) The extent to which the needs of the obligor, taking into account the obligor's payment history and the current circumstances of both the obligor and the obligee, warrant a conditional release as described in this subdivision.

The request for judicial review shall be served by the applicant upon the district attorney who submitted the applicant's name on the certified list within seven calendar days of the filing of the petition. The court has the authority to uphold the action, unconditionally release the license, or conditionally release the license.

If the judicial review results in a finding by the court that the obligor is in compliance with the judgment or order for support, the district attorney shall immediately send a release in accordance with subdivision (h) to the appropriate board and the applicant. If the judicial review results in a finding by the court that the needs of the obligor warrant a conditional release, the court shall make findings of fact stating the basis for the release and the payment necessary to satisfy the unrestricted issuance or renewal of the license without prejudice to a later judicial determination of the amount of support arrearages, including interest, and shall specify payment terms, compliance with which are necessary to allow the release to remain in effect.

(l) The State Department of Social Services shall prescribe release forms for use by district attorneys. When the obligor is in compliance, the district attorney shall mail to the applicant and the appropriate board a release stating that the applicant is in compliance. The receipt of a release shall serve to notify the applicant and the board that, for the purposes of this section, the applicant is in compliance with the judgment or order for support.

If the district attorney determines subsequent to the issuance of a release that the applicant is once again not in compliance with a judgment or order for support, or with the terms of repayment as described in this subdivision, the district attorney may notify the board, the obligor, and the State Department of Social Services in a format prescribed by the State Department of Social Services that the obligor is not in compliance.

The State Department of Social Services may, when it is economically feasible for the department and the boards to develop an automated process for complying with this subdivision, notify the boards in a manner prescribed by the department, that the obligor is once again not in compliance. Upon receipt of this notice, the board shall immediately notify the obligor on a form prescribed by the department that the obligor's license will be suspended on a specific date, and this date shall be no longer than 30 days from the date the form is mailed. The obligor shall be further notified that the license will remain suspended until such time a new release is issued in accordance with subdivision (h). Nothing in this section shall be

deemed to limit the obligor from seeking judicial review of suspension pursuant to the procedures described in subdivision (k).

(m) The State Department of Social Services may enter into interagency agreements with the state agencies that have responsibility for the administration of boards necessary to implement this section, to the extent that it is cost-effective to implement this section. These agreements shall provide for the receipt by the other state agencies and boards of federal funds to cover that portion of costs allowable in federal law and regulation and incurred by the state agencies and boards in implementing this section. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, revenue generated by a board or state agency shall be used to fund the nonfederal share of costs incurred pursuant to this section. These agreements shall provide that boards shall reimburse the State Department of Social Services for the nonfederal share of costs incurred by the department in implementing this section. The boards shall reimburse the State Department of Social Services for the nonfederal share of costs incurred pursuant to this section from moneys collected from applicants and licensees.

(n) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in order for the boards subject to this section to be reimbursed for the costs incurred in administering its provisions, the boards may, with the approval of the appropriate department director, levy on all licensees and applicants a surcharge on any fee or fees collected pursuant to law, or, alternatively, with the approval of the appropriate department director, levy on the applicants or licensees named on a certified list or supplemental list, a special fee.

(o) The process described in subdivision (h) shall constitute the sole administrative remedy for contesting the issuance of a temporary license or the denial or suspension of a license under this section. The procedures specified in the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code) shall not apply to the denial, suspension, or failure to issue or renew a license or the issuance of a temporary license pursuant to this section.

(p) In furtherance of the public policy of increasing child support enforcement and collections, on or before November 1, 1995, the State Department of Social Services shall make a report to the Legislature and the Governor based on data collected by the boards and the district attorneys in a format prescribed by the State Department of Social Services. The report shall contain all of the following:

(1) The number of delinquent obligors certified by district attorneys under this section.

(2) The number of support obligors who also were applicants or licensees subject to this section.

(3) The number of new licenses and renewals that were delayed, temporary licenses issued, and licenses suspended subject to this section and the number of new licenses and renewals granted and licenses reinstated following board receipt of releases as provided by subdivision (h) by May 1, 1995.

(4) The costs incurred in the implementation and enforcement of this section.

(q) Any board receiving an inquiry as to the licensed status of an applicant or licensee who has had a license denied or suspended under this section or has been granted a temporary license under this section shall respond only that the license was denied or suspended or the temporary license was issued pursuant to this section. Information collected pursuant to this section by any state agency, board, or department shall be subject to the Information Practices Act of 1977 (Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 1798) of Title 1.8 of Part 4 of Division 3 of the Civil Code).

(r) Any rules and regulations issued pursuant to this section by any state agency, board, or department may be adopted as 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). The adoption of these regulations shall be deemed an emergency and necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, or general welfare. The regulations shall become effective immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

(s) The State Department of Social Services and boards, as appropriate, shall adopt regulations necessary to implement this section.

(t) The Judicial Council shall develop the forms necessary to implement this section, except as provided in subdivisions (f) and (l).

(u) The release or other use of information received by a board pursuant to this section, except as authorized by this section, is punishable as a misdemeanor.

(v) The State Board of Equalization shall enter into interagency agreements with the State Department of Social Services and the Franchise Tax Board that will require the State Department of Social Services and the Franchise Tax Board to maximize the use of information collected by the State Board of Equalization, for child support enforcement purposes, to the extent it is cost-effective and permitted by the Revenue and Taxation Code.

(w) The suspension or revocation of any driver's license, including a commercial driver's license, under this section shall not subject the licensee to vehicle impoundment pursuant to Section 14602.6 of the Vehicle Code.

(x) If any provision of this section or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, that invalidity shall not affect

other provisions or applications of this section which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this section are severable.

(y) All rights to administrative and judicial review afforded by this section to an applicant shall also be afforded to a licensee.

This section shall become inoperative on July 1, 1997, and, as of January 1, 1998, is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that becomes operative on or before January 1, 1998, deletes or extends the dates on which it becomes inoperative and is repealed.

SEC. 96. Section 11350.6 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, as amended by Section 3.6 of Chapter 906 of the Statutes of 1994, is amended to read:

11350.6. (a) As used in this section:

(1) "Applicant" means any person applying for issuance or renewal of a license.

(2) "Board" means any entity specified in Section 101 of the Business and Professions Code, the entities referred to in Sections 1000 and 3600 of the Business and Professions Code, the State Bar, the Department of Real Estate, the Department of Motor Vehicles, the Secretary of State, and any other state commission, department, committee, examiner, or agency that issues a license, certificate, credential, or registration authorizing a person to engage in a business, occupation, or profession.

(3) "Certified list" means a list provided by the district attorney to the State Department of Social Services in which the district attorney verifies, under penalty of perjury, that the names contained therein are support obligors found to be out of compliance with a judgment or order for support in a case being enforced under Title IV-D of the Social Security Act.

(4) "Compliance with a judgment or order for support" means that, as set forth in a judgment or order for child or family support, the obligor is no more than 30 calendar days in arrears in making payments in full for current support, in making periodic payments in full, whether court-ordered or by agreement with the district attorney, on a support arrearage, or in making periodic payments in full, whether court-ordered or by agreement with the district attorney, on a judgment for reimbursement for public assistance, or has obtained a judicial finding that equitable estoppel as provided in statute or case law precludes enforcement of the order. The district attorney is authorized to use this section to enforce orders for spousal support only when the district attorney is also enforcing a related child support obligation owed to the obligee parent by the same obligor, pursuant to Sections 11475.1 and 11475.2.

(5) "License" includes membership in the State Bar, and a certificate, permit, registration, or any other authorization issued by a board that allows a person to engage in a business, occupation, or profession, or to operate a commercial motor vehicle, including

appointment and commission by the Secretary of State as a notary public. "License" also includes any driver's license issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles.

(6) "Licensee" means any person holding a license, certificate, permit, registration, or other authorization issued by a board, to engage in a business, occupation, or profession, or a commercial driver's license as defined in Section 15210 of the Vehicle Code, including an appointment and commission by the Secretary of State as a notary public. "Licensee" also means any person holding a driver's license issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles.

(b) The district attorney shall maintain a list of those persons included in a case being enforced under Title IV-D of the Social Security Act against whom a support order or judgment has been rendered by, or registered in, a court of this state, and who are not in compliance with that order or judgment. The district attorney shall submit a certified list with the names, social security numbers, and last known addresses of these persons and the name, address, and telephone number of the district attorney who certified the list to the State Department of Social Services. The district attorney shall verify, under penalty of perjury, that the persons listed are subject to an order or judgment for the payment of support and that these persons are not in compliance with the order or judgment. The district attorney shall submit to the State Department of Social Services an updated certified list on a monthly basis.

(c) The State Department of Social Services shall consolidate the certified lists received from the district attorneys and, within 30 calendar days of receipt, shall provide a copy of the consolidated list to each board which is responsible for the regulation of licenses, as specified in this section.

(d) On or before November 1, 1992, or as soon thereafter as economically feasible, as determined by the State Department of Social Services, all boards subject to this section shall implement procedures to accept and process the list provided by the State Department of Social Services, in accordance with this section.

(e) (1) Promptly after receiving the certified consolidated list from the State Department of Social Services, and prior to the issuance or renewal of a license, each board shall determine whether the applicant is on the most recent certified consolidated list provided by the State Department of Social Services. The board shall have the authority to withhold issuance or renewal of the license of any applicant on the list.

(2) If an applicant is on the list, the board shall immediately serve notice as specified in subdivision (f) on the applicant of the board's intent to withhold issuance or renewal of the license. The notice shall be made personally or by mail to the applicant's last known mailing address on file with the board. Service by mail shall be complete in accordance with Section 1013 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

(A) The board shall issue a temporary license valid for a period of 150 days to any applicant whose name is on the certified list if the applicant is otherwise eligible for a license.

(B) Except as provided in subparagraph (D), the 150-day time period for a temporary license shall not be extended. Except as provided in subparagraph (D), only one temporary license shall be issued during a regular license term and it shall coincide with the first 150 days of that license term. As this paragraph applies to commercial driver's licenses, "license term" shall be deemed to be 12 months from the date the application fee is received by the Department of Motor Vehicles. A license for the full or remainder of the license term shall be issued or renewed only upon compliance with this section.

(C) In the event that a license or application for a license or the renewal of a license is denied pursuant to this section, any funds paid by the applicant or licensee shall not be refunded by the board.

(D) This paragraph shall apply only in the case of a driver's license, other than a commercial driver's license. Upon the request of the district attorney or by order of the court upon a showing of good cause, the board shall extend a 150-day temporary license for a period not to exceed 150 extra days.

(3) (A) The State Department of Social Services may, when it is economically feasible for the department and the boards to do so as determined by the department, in cases where the department is aware that certain child support obligors listed on the certified lists have been out of compliance with a judgment or order for support for more than four months, provide a supplemental list of these obligors to each board with which the department has an interagency agreement to implement this paragraph. Upon request by the department, the licenses of these obligors shall be subject to suspension, provided that the licenses would not otherwise be eligible for renewal within six months from the date of the request by the department. The board shall have the authority to suspend the license of any licensee on this supplemental list.

(B) If a licensee is on a supplemental list, the board shall immediately serve notice as specified in subdivision (f) on the licensee that his or her license will be automatically suspended 150 days after notice is served, unless compliance with this section is achieved. The notice shall be made personally or by mail to the licensee's last known mailing address on file with the board. Service by mail shall be complete in accordance with Section 1013 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

(C) The 150-day notice period shall not be extended.

(D) In the event that any license is suspended pursuant to this section, any funds paid by the licensee shall not be refunded by the board.

(E) This paragraph shall not apply to licenses subject to annual renewal or annual fee.

(f) Notices shall be developed by each board in accordance with guidelines provided by the State Department of Social Services and subject to approval by the State Department of Social Services. The notice shall include the address and telephone number of the district attorney who submitted the name on the certified list, and shall emphasize the necessity of obtaining a release from that district attorney's office as a condition for the issuance, renewal, or continued valid status of a license or licenses.

(1) In the case of applicants not subject to paragraph (3) of subdivision (e), the notice shall inform the applicant that the board shall issue a temporary license, as provided in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (e), for 150 calendar days if the applicant is otherwise eligible and that upon expiration of that time period the license will be denied unless the board has received a release from the district attorney who submitted the name on the certified list.

(2) In the case of licensees named on a supplemental list, the notice shall inform the licensee that his or her license will continue in its existing status for no more than 150 calendar days from the date of mailing or service of the notice and thereafter will be suspended indefinitely unless, during the 150-day notice period, the board has received a release from the district attorney who submitted the name on the certified list. Additionally, the notice shall inform the licensee that any license suspended under this section will remain so until the expiration of the remaining license term, unless the board receives a release along with applications and fees, if applicable, to reinstate the license during the license term.

(3) The notice shall also inform the applicant or licensee that if an application is denied or a license is suspended pursuant to this section, any funds paid by the applicant or licensee shall not be refunded by the board. The State Department of Social Services shall also develop a form that the applicant shall use to request a review by the district attorney. A copy of this form shall be included with every notice sent pursuant to this subdivision.

(g) (1) Each district attorney shall maintain review procedures consistent with this section to allow an applicant to have the underlying arrearage and any relevant defenses investigated, to provide an applicant information on the process of obtaining a modification of a support order, or to provide an applicant assistance in the establishment of a payment schedule on arrearages if the circumstances so warrant.

(2) It is the intent of the Legislature that a court or district attorney, when determining an appropriate payment schedule for arrearages, base its decision on the facts of the particular case and the priority of payment of child support over other debts. The payment schedule shall also recognize that certain expenses may be essential to enable an obligor to be employed. Therefore, in reaching its

decision, the court or the district attorney shall consider both of these goals in setting a payment schedule for arrearages.

(h) If the applicant wishes to challenge the submission of his or her name on the certified list, the applicant shall make a timely written request for review on the form specified in subdivision (f) to the district attorney who certified the applicant's name. The district attorney shall, within 75 days of receipt of the written request, inform the applicant in writing of his or her findings upon completion of the review. The district attorney shall immediately send a release to the appropriate board and the applicant, if any of the following conditions are met:

(1) The applicant is found to be in compliance or negotiates an agreement with the district attorney for a payment schedule on arrearages or reimbursement.

(2) The applicant has submitted a request for review, but the district attorney will be unable to complete the review and send notice of his or her findings to the applicant within 75 days. This paragraph applies only if the delay in completing the review process is not the result of the applicant's failure to act in a reasonable, timely, and diligent manner upon receiving notice from the board that his or her name is on the list.

(3) The applicant has filed and served a request for judicial review pursuant to this section, but a resolution of that review will not be made within 150 days of the date of service of notice pursuant to subdivision (f). This paragraph applies only if the delay in completing the judicial review process is not the result of the applicant's failure to act in a reasonable, timely, and diligent manner upon receiving the district attorney's notice of his or her findings.

(4) The applicant has obtained a judicial finding of compliance as defined in this section.

(i) An applicant is required to act with diligence in responding to notices from the board and the district attorney with the recognition that the temporary license will lapse or the license suspension will go into effect after 150 days and that the district attorney and, where appropriate, the court must have time to act within that period. An applicant's delay in acting, without good cause, which directly results in the inability of the district attorney to complete a review of the applicant's request or the court to hear the request for judicial review within the 150-day period shall not constitute the diligence required under this section which would justify the issuance of a release.

(j) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the district attorney shall not issue a release if the applicant is not in compliance with the judgment or order for support. The district attorney shall notify the applicant in writing that the applicant may, by filing an order to show cause or notice of motion, request any or all of the following:

(1) Judicial review of the district attorney's decision not to issue a release.

(2) A judicial determination of compliance.

(3) A modification of the support judgment or order.

The notice shall also contain the name and address of the court in which the applicant shall file the order to show cause or notice of motion and inform the applicant that his or her name shall remain on the certified list if the applicant does not timely request judicial review. The applicant shall comply with all statutes and rules of court regarding orders to show cause and notices of motion.

Nothing in this section shall be deemed to limit an applicant from filing an order to show cause or notice of motion to modify a support judgment or order or to fix a payment schedule on arrearages accruing under a support judgment or order or to obtain a court finding of compliance with a judgment or order for support.

(k) The request for judicial review of the district attorney's decision shall state the grounds for which review is requested and judicial review shall be limited to those stated grounds. The court shall hold an evidentiary hearing within 20 calendar days of the filing of the request for review. Judicial review of the district attorney's decision shall be limited to a determination of each of the following issues:

(1) Whether there is a support judgment, order, or payment schedule on arrearages or reimbursement.

(2) Whether the petitioner is the obligor covered by the support judgment or order.

(3) Whether the support obligor is or is not in compliance with judgment or order of support.

(4) The extent to which the needs of the obligor, taking into account the obligor's payment history and the current circumstances of both the obligor and the obligee, warrant a conditional release as described in this subdivision.

The request for judicial review shall be served by the applicant upon the district attorney who submitted the applicant's name on the certified list within seven calendar days of the filing of the petition. The court has the authority to uphold the action, unconditionally release the license, or conditionally release the license.

If the judicial review results in a finding by the court that the obligor is in compliance with the judgment or order for support, the district attorney shall immediately send a release in accordance with subdivision (h) to the appropriate board and the applicant. If the judicial review results in a finding by the court that the needs of the obligor warrant a conditional release, the court shall make findings of fact stating the basis for the release and the payment necessary to satisfy the unrestricted issuance or renewal of the license without prejudice to a later judicial determination of the amount of support arrearages, including interest, and shall specify payment terms,

compliance with which are necessary to allow the release to remain in effect.

(l) The State Department of Social Services shall prescribe release forms for use by district attorneys. When the obligor is in compliance, the district attorney shall mail to the applicant and the appropriate board a release stating that the applicant is in compliance. The receipt of a release shall serve to notify the applicant and the board that, for the purposes of this section, the applicant is in compliance with the judgment or order for support.

If the district attorney determines subsequent to the issuance of a release that the applicant is once again not in compliance with a judgment or order for support, or with the terms of repayment as described in this subdivision, the district attorney may notify the board, the obligor, and the State Department of Social Services in a format prescribed by the State Department of Social Services that the obligor is not in compliance.

The State Department of Social Services may, when it is economically feasible for the department and the boards to develop an automated process for complying with this subdivision, notify the boards in a manner prescribed by the department, that the obligor is once again not in compliance. Upon receipt of this notice, the board shall immediately notify the obligor on a form prescribed by the department that the obligor's license will be suspended on a specific date, and this date shall be no longer than 30 days from the date the form is mailed. The obligor shall be further notified that the license will remain suspended until a new release is issued in accordance with subdivision (h). Nothing in this section shall be deemed to limit the obligor from seeking judicial review of suspension pursuant to the procedures described in subdivision (k).

(m) The State Department of Social Services may enter into interagency agreements with the state agencies that have responsibility for the administration of boards necessary to implement this section, to the extent that it is cost-effective to implement this section. These agreements shall provide for the receipt by the other state agencies and boards of federal funds to cover that portion of costs allowable in federal law and regulation and incurred by the state agencies and boards in implementing this section. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, revenue generated by a board or state agency shall be used to fund the nonfederal share of costs incurred pursuant to this section. These agreements shall provide that boards shall reimburse the State Department of Social Services for the nonfederal share of costs incurred by the department in implementing this section. The boards shall reimburse the State Department of Social Services for the nonfederal share of costs incurred pursuant to this section from moneys collected from applicants and licensees.

(n) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in order for the boards subject to this section to be reimbursed for the costs incurred in administering its provisions, the boards may, with the approval of the appropriate department director, levy on all licensees and applicants a surcharge on any fee or fees collected pursuant to law, or, alternatively, with the approval of the appropriate department director, levy on the applicants or licensees named on a certified list or supplemental list, a special fee.

(o) The process described in subdivision (h) shall constitute the sole administrative remedy for contesting the issuance of a temporary license or the denial or suspension of a license under this section. The procedures specified in the administrative adjudication provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 11400) and Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code) shall not apply to the denial, suspension, or failure to issue or renew a license or the issuance of a temporary license pursuant to this section.

(p) In furtherance of the public policy of increasing child support enforcement and collections, on or before November 1, 1995, the State Department of Social Services shall make a report to the Legislature and the Governor based on data collected by the boards and the district attorneys in a format prescribed by the State Department of Social Services. The report shall contain all of the following:

(1) The number of delinquent obligors certified by district attorneys under this section.

(2) The number of support obligors who also were applicants or licensees subject to this section.

(3) The number of new licenses and renewals that were delayed, temporary licenses issued, and licenses suspended subject to this section and the number of new licenses and renewals granted and licenses reinstated following board receipt of releases as provided by subdivision (h) by May 1, 1995.

(4) The costs incurred in the implementation and enforcement of this section.

(q) Any board receiving an inquiry as to the licensed status of an applicant or licensee who has had a license denied or suspended under this section or has been granted a temporary license under this section shall respond only that the license was denied or suspended or the temporary license was issued pursuant to this section. Information collected pursuant to this section by any state agency, board, or department shall be subject to the Information Practices Act of 1977 (Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 1798) of Title 1.8 of Part 4 of Division 3 of the Civil Code).

(r) Any rules and regulations issued pursuant to this section by any state agency, board, or department may be adopted as emergency

regulations in accordance with the rulemaking provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code). The adoption of these regulations shall be deemed an emergency and necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, or general welfare. The regulations shall become effective immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

(s) The State Department of Social Services and boards, as appropriate, shall adopt regulations necessary to implement this section.

(t) The Judicial Council shall develop the forms necessary to implement this section, except as provided in subdivisions (f) and (l).

(u) The release or other use of information received by a board pursuant to this section, except as authorized by this section, is punishable as a misdemeanor.

(v) The State Board of Equalization shall enter into interagency agreements with the State Department of Social Services and the Franchise Tax Board that will require the State Department of Social Services and the Franchise Tax Board to maximize the use of information collected by the State Board of Equalization, for child support enforcement purposes, to the extent it is cost-effective and permitted by the Revenue and Taxation Code.

(w) The suspension or revocation of any driver's license, including a commercial driver's license, under this section shall not subject the licensee to vehicle impoundment pursuant to Section 14602.6 of the Vehicle Code.

(x) If any provision of this section or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, that invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this section which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this section are severable.

(y) All rights to administrative and judicial review afforded by this section to an applicant shall also be afforded to a licensee.

SEC. 97. Section 14105.41 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, as amended by Section 12 of Chapter 723 of the Statutes of 1992, is amended to read:

14105.41. (a) For the purpose of adding drugs to, or deleting drugs from, the Medi-Cal drug formulary as described in Section 14105.4, whether pursuant to a petition or by the department independent of a petition, all of the requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act contained in Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code shall be applicable except that the requirements of subdivision (a) of Section 11340.7 and subdivision

(a) of Section 11346.9 of the Government Code shall be deemed to have been complied with if the department does all of the following:

(1) Upon receipt of a petition requesting the addition of a drug to, or the deletion of a drug from, the Medi-Cal drug formulary, the department shall notify the petitioner directly and in writing of the receipt of the petition and shall, within 30 days, either return the petition as incomplete or schedule the petition for public hearing, unless the public hearing is not required pursuant to Section 14105.9.

(2) Notifies each petitioner directly and in writing of its decision regarding the addition of a drug product to, or deletion of a drug product from, the formulary and shall state the reason or reasons for its decision and the specific regulatory criteria that are the basis of the department's decision.

(3) Prepares and submits to the Office of Administrative Law with the adopted regulation all of the following for each drug which the department has decided to add to, or delete from, the Medi-Cal drug formulary:

(A) A brief summary of the comments submitted. For the purpose of this section, "comments" shall mean the major points raised in testimony which specifically address the regulatory criteria upon which the department is authorized, pursuant to subdivision (e) of Section 14105.4, to base a decision to add or delete a drug from the formulary.

(B) The recommendation of the Medical Therapeutic and Drug Advisory Committee.

(C) The decision of the department.

(D) A statement of the reason and the specific regulatory criteria that are the basis of the department's decision.

(b) Any additional information provided to the department during the posting of revisions to the proposed regulation shall be responded to by the department directly and in writing to the originator. That response shall notify the originator whether the additional information has resulted in a changed decision.

(c) For the purpose of review by the court, if any, and review and approval by the Office of Administrative Law of changes to the Medi-Cal drug formulary adopted by the department, each drug added to, or deleted from, the formulary shall be considered to be a separate regulation and shall be severable from all other additions or deletions of drugs contained in the rulemaking file.

(d) This section shall be applicable to any Medi-Cal drug formulary regulation package filed with the Office of Administrative Law on or after January 1, 1997.

(e) This section shall become operative on January 1, 1997.

SEC. 98. (a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), this act shall be operative on July 1, 1997.

(b) (1) Sections 9, 9.2, 9.4, 9.6, 15, 15.1, 15.3, 15.5, 15.6, 15.7, 15.8, 24, 57, 58, 64, 64.4, 65, 65.4, 71, 72, 72.4, 78, 82, 95.5, 97.1, and 97.2 shall be operative on January 1, 1996.

(2) Section 97 shall be operative on January 1, 1997.

(3) If Section 443.37 of the Health and Safety Code is repealed before July 1, 1997, then Section 59 of this act shall not become operative.

SEC. 98.3. Section 15.9 of this bill incorporates amendments to Section 11350 of the Government Code proposed by both this bill and SB 452. It shall only become operative if (1) both bills are enacted and become effective on January 1, 1996, (2) each bill amends Section 11350 of the Government Code, and (3) this bill is enacted after SB 452, in which case Section 15.8 of this bill shall not become operative.

SEC. 98.5. Section 95.5 of this bill incorporates amendments to Section 11350.6 of the Welfare and Institutions Code proposed by AB 257. It shall only becomes operative if (1) this bill and AB 257 are enacted and become effective on January 1, 1996, (2) this bill and AB 257 amend Section 11350.6 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, and (3) this bill is enacted after AB 257, in which case Section 95 of this bill shall not become operative.

SEC. 99. Section 96 of this bill incorporates amendments to Section 11350.6 of the Welfare and Institutions Code proposed by both this bill and AB 257. It shall only become operative if (1) both bills are enacted and become effective on January 1, 1996, (2) each bill amends Section 11350.6 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, and (3) this bill is enacted after AB 257, in which case Section 95 of this bill shall not become operative.

SEC. 100. The provisions of this act are severable. If any provision of this act or its application is held invalid, that invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application.