

Item: 2025 Legislation of Interest

Item Summary: Below are updates on bills previously identified as legislation of interest as of October 13, 2025.

AB 667 (Solache) - Board Position: WATCH

Title: Professions and vocations: license examinations: interpreters.

Status: Ordered to Senate Inactive File on 9/11/25

This bill, beginning January 1, 2027, requires each licensing board within the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) that is not a healing arts board, to allow an applicant who cannot read, speak, or write in English to use an interpreter when taking a license examination. The bill would also require each of the impacted boards, beginning on July 1, 2027, to conduct an annual review of applicants' language preferences, and, by July 1, 2027, to also determine whether there is a substantial number of non-English-speaking applicants, as defined, who require the services of an interpreter.

AB 742 (Elhawary) - Board Position: WATCH

Title: Department of Consumer Affairs: licensing: applicants who are descendants of slaves

Status: 9/22/25: Enrolled and presented to the Governor.

This bill requires a state licensing board within the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) to prioritize applicants seeking licensure who are descendants of American slaves if certified by the Bureaus for Descendants of American Slavery (proposed to be established by Senate Bill 518).

AB 1434 (Rodriguez) - Board Position: WATCH

Title: Health care boards: workforce data collection

Status: No action has been taken on this bill since it was introduced on 2/21/25.

Existing law requires specified boards, including the Board of Registered Nursing and the Respiratory Care Board of California, to collect certain workforce data from their respective licensees and registrants for future workforce planning at least biennially. This bill would make non-substantive changes to those provisions.

SB 389 (Ochoa Bogh) - Board Position: WATCH

Title: Pupil health: individuals with exceptional needs: specialized physical health care services

Status: 10/10/25: Approved by the Governor [Chapter 582, Statutes of 2025]

This bill clarifies that a licensed vocational nurse performing suctioning and other basic respiratory tasks and services under the supervision of a credentialed school nurse is not prohibited under the Respiratory Care Practice Act.

SB 470 (Laird) - Board Position: WATCH

Title: Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act: teleconferencing.

Status: 10/1/25: Approved by the Governor [Chapter 222, Statutes of 2025]

This bill extends the January 1, 2026, repeal date for certain provisions in the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act (Bagley-Keene) until January 1, 2030, authorizing and specifying conditions under which a state body may hold a meeting by teleconference, as specified.

SB 669 (McGuire) - Board Position: WATCH

Title: Rural hospitals: standby perinatal medical services.

Status: 10/11/25: Approved by the Governor [Chapter 603, Statutes of 2025]

This bill would require the California Department of Public Health, by July 1, 2026, to establish a 10-year pilot project within up to 5 critical access hospitals to allow participating hospitals, on an application basis, to establish standby perinatal services, as defined. Under the bill, the first 3 hospital selected, if qualified, would be nonprofit and located in the County of Humboldt and the County of Plumas. The bill would set forth various criteria for the selection of the participating hospitals with regard to standards and resources.

FEDERAL LEGISLATION

HR 783 (Congressman John Joyce) - Position To Be Ratified: SUPPORT

Title: The Sustainable Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation Services in the Home Act

Status: 1/28/25: Introduced in the House of Representatives and referred to relevant committees for consideration

The Sustainable Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation Services in the Home Act is a Federal bipartisan legislative effort aimed at permanently expanding Medicare coverage for in-home cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation services delivered via telehealth. This initiative builds upon temporary flexibilities introduced during the COVID-19 pandemic, which allowed patients to receive these essential services remotely.

During the pandemic, temporary waivers demonstrated the effectiveness of home-based rehabilitation services, leading to improved patient outcomes and increased access to care. Recognizing these benefits, the Act aims to make such services a permanent fixture in Medicare. It has garnered support from various healthcare organizations, including the American Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation, the American College of Cardiology, and the American Thoracic Society.

A letter of support from the Board was sent on 4/2/2025.