

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS (DCA)

TITLE 16. PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL REGULATIONS DIVISION 4.

BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS

NOTICE OF PROPOSED REGULATORY ACTION CONCERNING: Repeal of Mental Illness Regulation

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Chiropractic Examiners (hereafter Board) is proposing to take the action described in the Informative Digest below, after considering all comments, objections, and recommendations regarding the proposed action.

PUBLIC HEARING

The Board has not scheduled a public hearing on this proposed action. However, the Board will hold a hearing if it receives a written request for a public hearing from any interested person, or their authorized representative, no later than 15 days prior to the close of the written comment period. A hearing may be requested by making such request in writing addressed to the individuals listed under "Contact Person" in this notice.

WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD

Written comments relevant to the action proposed, including those sent by mail, facsimile, or email to the addresses listed under "Contact Person" in this Notice, must be **received by the Board at its office no later than by Monday, April 6, 2026**, or must be received by the Board at the hearing, should one be scheduled.

AUTHORITY AND REFERENCE

Pursuant to the authority vested by section 4 of the Chiropractic Initiative Act of California (Act) [Initiative Measure, Stats. 1923, p. lxxxix, § 4, as amended by Stats. 1978, ch. 307, p. 636, § 1], the Board is considering repealing section 315 of Title 16, Division 4, Article 2 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR).

INFORMATIVE DIGEST / POLICY STATEMENT OVERVIEW

Existing law, CCR section 315, allows the Board to order a licensee to be examined by one or more physicians specializing in psychiatry when reasonable cause exists that the licensee is mentally ill to the extent that it may affect their ability to conduct with safety to the public the practice of chiropractic. The regulation also allows the Board to place a licensee on probation, suspend their right to practice for a period not exceeding one year, revoke their license, or take other such action as the Board in its discretion deems proper if the licensee is found to be mentally ill, and specifies terms and conditions that may be imposed by the Board when reinstating a license after receiving competent

evidence of the absence or control of the condition which originally caused the Board to take action against the licensee.

This proposal will repeal CCR section 315 because this regulation unnecessarily duplicates existing statutory authority found within Business and Professions Code sections 820 through 828 that permits the DCA healing arts boards, including the Board, to order a licensee to be examined by one or more physicians and surgeons or psychologists whenever it appears they may be unable to practice their profession safely due to mental illness, or physical illness affecting competency, and to take appropriate action against a licensee for failure to comply with the order, or upon determining that they are unable to practice safely because they are mentally ill, or physically ill affecting competency, or when reinstating a license after receiving competent evidence of the absence or control of the condition which caused the revocation or suspension of the license.

This proposal also supports the Board's 2022–2026 Strategic Plan Objective 4.2 to perform a comprehensive review of existing regulations to identify and address any unnecessary or obsolete regulations and to clarify current regulations.

Anticipated Benefits of Proposal

This proposal benefits the health and welfare of California residents by removing an obsolete and unused provision that duplicates existing statutory authority, while still allowing the Board to discipline licensees and protect consumers. This action will reduce confusion for both licensed doctors of chiropractic and the public, clarify the Board's current regulations, and eliminate time spent navigating unnecessary regulations.

This regulatory proposal does not affect worker safety or the state's environment.

Evaluation of Consistency and Compatibility with Existing State Regulations

During the process of developing this regulatory proposal, the Board has conducted a search of any similar regulations on these topics and has concluded that this proposal is neither inconsistent nor incompatible with existing state regulations.

DISCLOSURES REGARDING THIS PROPOSED ACTION

FISCAL IMPACT ESTIMATES

Fiscal Impact on Public Agencies Including Costs or Savings to State Agencies or Costs/Savings in Federal Funding to the State: None. The regulations do not result in a fiscal impact to the state. This proposal is intended to eliminate the duplication of existing statutory authority in the Board's regulations and does not result in additional workload or costs.

The regulations do not result in costs or savings in federal funding to the state.

Nondiscretionary Costs/Savings to Local Agencies: None.

Cost to any Local Agency or School District for which Government Code Sections 17500 - 17630 Require Reimbursement: None.

Mandate Imposed on Local Agencies or School Districts: None.

Significant Effect on Housing Costs: None.

BUSINESS IMPACT ESTIMATES

The Board has made the initial determination that the proposed regulatory action would have no significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting business, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states.

Cost Impact on Representative Private Person or Business

The Board is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily occur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

This proposal is intended to eliminate a duplicative provision within the Board's regulations and does not result in additional costs to individuals or businesses.

RESULTS OF ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT / ANALYSIS

Impact on Jobs/Businesses

The Board has determined that this regulatory proposal will not have any impact on the following:

- 1) the creation or elimination of jobs within the state,
- 2) the creation of new businesses or the elimination of existing businesses within the state, or
- 3) the expansion of businesses currently doing business in the state.

Benefits of Regulation

The Board has determined that this regulatory proposal will benefit the health and welfare of California residents by removing an obsolete and unused provision that duplicates existing statutory authority. This action will reduce confusion for both licensed doctors of chiropractic and the public, clarify the Board's current regulations, and eliminate time spent navigating unnecessary regulations.

This regulatory proposal does not affect worker safety or the state's environment as this proposal is not related to any of those issues.

Business Reporting Requirements

The regulatory action does not require businesses to file a report with the Board.

Effect on Small Business

The Board has determined that this regulatory proposal will not affect small businesses. This proposal is intended to repeal an obsolete regulation that duplicates existing statutory authority and does not result in additional costs to small businesses.

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

In accordance with Government Code section 11346.5, subdivision (a)(13), the Board must determine that no reasonable alternative it considered to the regulation or that has otherwise been identified and brought to its attention would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed; would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposal described in this Notice; or would be more cost-effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provision of law.

Any interested person may submit written comments relevant to the above determinations to the Board's office at 1625 N. Market Blvd., Suite N-327, Sacramento, CA 95834 during the written comment period, or at the hearing if one is scheduled or requested.

AVAILABILITY OF STATEMENT OF REASONS AND RULEMAKING FILE

The Board has compiled a record for this regulatory action, which includes the Initial Statement of Reasons, proposed regulatory text, and all the information on which this proposal is based. This material is contained in the rulemaking file and is available for public inspection upon request to the contact persons named in this notice.

TEXT OF PROPOSAL

Copies of the exact language of the proposed regulations, and any document incorporated by reference, and of the initial statement of reasons, and all of the information upon which the proposal is based, may be obtained upon request from the Board at 1625 N. Market Blvd., Suite N-327, Sacramento, CA 95834.

AVAILABILITY OF CHANGED OR MODIFIED TEXT

After considering all timely and relevant comments, the Board, upon its own motion or at the request of any interested party, may thereafter adopt the proposals substantially as described below or may modify such proposals if such modifications are sufficiently related to the original text. With the exception of technical or grammatical changes, the full text of any modified proposal, with the modifications clearly indicated, will be available for review and written comment for 15 days prior to its adoption from the person designated in this Notice as the Contact Person and will be mailed to those persons who submit written comments or oral testimony related to this proposal or who have requested notification of any changes to the proposal.

AVAILABILITY AND LOCATION OF THE FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS AND RULEMAKING FILE

All the information upon which the proposed regulations are based is contained in the rulemaking file which is available for public inspection by contacting the person named below.

You may obtain a copy of the Final Statement of Reasons once it has been prepared by making a written request to the Contact Person named below or by accessing the website listed below.

CONTACT PERSON

Inquiries or comments concerning the proposed rulemaking action may be addressed to:

Name: Tammi Herrera
Address: Board of Chiropractic Examiners
1625 N. Market Blvd., Suite N-327
Sacramento, CA 95834
Telephone No.: (916) 574-8983
Fax No.: (916) 327-0039
Email Address: tammi.herrera@dca.ca.gov

The backup contact person is:

Name: Kristin Walker
Address: Board of Chiropractic Examiners
1625 N. Market Blvd., Suite N-327
Sacramento, CA 95834
Telephone No.: (916) 574-7784
Fax No.: (916) 327-0039
Email Address: kristin.walker@dca.ca.gov

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS ON THE INTERNET

Copies of the Notice of Proposed Action, the Initial Statement of Reasons, and the text of the regulations with modifications noted, as well as the Final Statement of Reasons when completed, and modified text, if any, can be accessed through the Board's website at https://www.chiro.ca.gov/laws_regs/prop_regs.shtml.