

SB 2184 presentation February 10, 2023

Senator Judy Lee

SB 2184 is a bill about occupational licensing, and I am bringing a hoghouse amendment to provide a much more thoughtful way of benefitting the boards and the professionals whom they license.

Section 1 is Uniform administration of boards. Subsection 1 includes the boards listed, because the statute in which this language is located, 43-51, includes all boards except those listed who are exempt. These boards would now be include along with the others.

The boards' duties are spelled out and include regulating in the least restrictive manner appropriate to protect public health and safety. They may adopt rules and, as mentioned in 4 , must have timely communication with applicants, provide for provisional or temporary licenses, and if the board does not defer routine application approval to staff or selected board members, they shall convene at least monthly to ensure timely issuance of licenses. They may assist in providing education for licensees and interested individuals.

The Governor will appoint and may remove board members.

The board shall set and maintain an annual budget and financial statements, along with an appropriate reserve.

It may contract for administrative and support services and obtain services through the information technology department.

Conflicts of interest during a board vote are addressed in #10.

The Attorney General shall conduct training for new board members , who are required to participate in their first year. Returning members may take the training, but are not required to do it every year.

This language was developed with review from board executives and others. I might mention that Katie Ralston Howe from the Department of Commerce has facilitated a task force for the past 2 years or so, addressing occupational licensing. I have served on that task force and appreciate having had access to the information which has been gathered by that group's work.

I present this amendment to you as a proposal for structure for all occupational licensing boards to streamline and make consistent the governance and activities of all boards, and I encourage your favorable review.