

DHBC

Dental Hygiene
Board of California

**Friday, March 13, 2026
DHBC FULL BOARD Meeting Materials
(Teleconference Meeting)**





Notice is hereby given that a public meeting of the
Dental Hygiene Board of California (DHBC) will be held as follows:

DHBC MEETING AGENDA

The DHBC welcomes and encourages public participation in its meetings.
The public may take appropriate opportunities to comment on any issue before the Board at the
time the item is heard.

Meeting Date and Time

Friday, March 13, 2026
11:00 a.m. until Adjournment

**The DHBC will conduct the meeting in accordance with Government Code section
11123, subdivision (b)(1), via WebEx teleconference for interaction.**

Instructions for WebEx Meeting Participation

The preferred audio connection is via telephone conference and not the microphone
and speakers on your computer. The phone number and access code will be
provided as part of your connection to the meeting. Please see the instructions
attached here to observe and participate in the meeting using WebEx from a
Microsoft Windows-based PC. Members of the public may, but are not obligated to,
provide their names or personal information as a condition of observing or
participating in the meeting. When signing into the WebEx platform, participants may
be asked for their name and email address. Participants who choose not to provide
their names will be required to provide a unique identifier, such as their initials or
another alternative, so that the meeting moderator can identify individuals who wish
to make a public comment. Participants who choose not to provide their email
address may utilize a fictitious email address in the following sample format:
XXXXX@mailinator.com.

For all those who wish to participate or observe the meeting, please log on to the
website below. If the hyperlink does not work when clicked on, you may need to
highlight the entire hyperlink, then right click. When the popup window opens, click on
“Open Hyperlink” to activate it, and join the meeting.

MEETING LINK

<https://dca-meetings.webex.com/dca-meetings/j.php?MTID=m0de2a08e436d0f9fd9f265cc4e827ff>

If joining using the link above:

Webinar number: 2494 756 7826
Webinar password: DHBC313

If joining by phone:

+1-415-655-0001 US Toll
Access code: 2494 756 7826
Passcode: 3422313

Members of the Board & Locations

Board Member	Teleconference Meeting Location
Joanne Pacheco, President RDH Educator Member	Fresno City College Health Sciences Building Room 130C 1101 E. University Ave., Fresno, CA 93741
Dr. Julie Elginer Public Member	Agoura Hills Library 29901 Ladyface Court Agoura Hills, CA 91301
Nicholas Kiet Quach Public Member	Alhambra Civic Center Library 101 S. 1 st Street, Study Room B, 2 nd Fl. Alhambra, CA 91801
Michael Long RDHAP Member	Napa County Library Main Branch 580 Coombs Street Napa, CA 94559
Dr. Sridevi Ponnala Dentist Member	Eden United Church of Christ 21455 Birch Street, 2 nd Fl. Conference Room Hayward, CA 94541

Additional Location for the Public (No Board Member Present)

DHBC Headquarters Building
2005 Evergreen Street
1st Floor Lake Tahoe Room 1290
Sacramento, CA 95815

**The DHBC welcomes and encourages public participation in its meetings.
Please see public comment specifics at the end of this agenda.**

The DHBC may act on any item listed on the agenda, unless listed as informational only. All times are approximate and subject to change. Agenda items may be taken out of order to accommodate speakers and to maintain a quorum. The meeting may be cancelled without notice.

Agenda

1. Roll Call & Establishment of Quorum.
2. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda.
[The DHBC may not discuss or act on any matter raised during the Public Comment section that is not included on this agenda, except whether to decide to place the matter on the agenda of a future meeting [Government Code sections 11125 & 11125.7(a).]
3. Discussion and Possible Action to take a position on Assembly Bill (AB) 1952 Berman: Dentistry: Dental Hygienists: Licensure.
4. Discussion and Possible Action to approve the DHBC November 8, 2025, Full Board Meeting Minutes.
5. Proposal of Future Agenda Items.
6. Adjournment.

Public comments will be taken on the agenda items at the time the specified item is raised. Government Code section 11125.7 provides the opportunity for the public to address each agenda item during discussion or consideration by the Board prior to the Board taking any action on said item. Members of the public will be provided appropriate opportunities to comment on any issue before the Board, but the Board President may, at their discretion, apportion available time among those who wish to speak. Individuals may appear before the Board to discuss items not on the agenda; however, the Board can neither discuss nor take official action on these items at the time of the same meeting [Government Code sections 11125, 11125.7(a).]

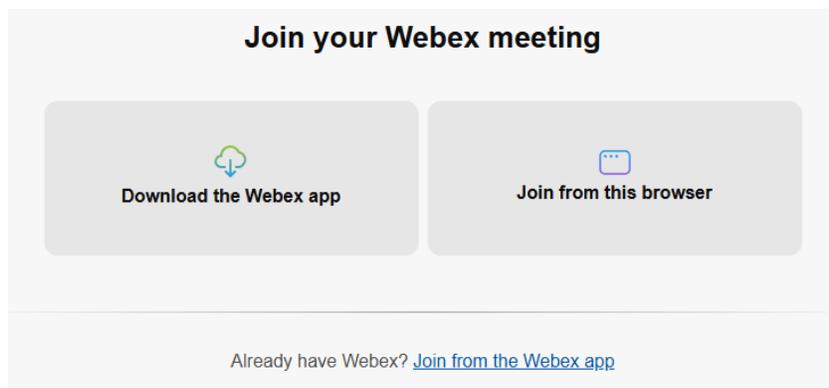
A person who needs a disability-related accommodation or modification in order to participate in the meeting may make a request by contacting the DHBC at 916-263-1978, via email at dhbcinfo@dca.ca.gov, or by sending a written request to 2005 Evergreen Street, Suite 1350, Sacramento, CA 95815. Providing your request at least five business days prior to the meeting will help to ensure availability of the requested accommodation.

For questions about the meeting, please contact Crystal Yuyama at the DHBC at 916-263-1978, via email at dhbcinfo@dca.ca.gov, or by sending a written request to Dental Hygiene Board of California, 2005 Evergreen Street, Suite 1350, Sacramento, CA 95815.

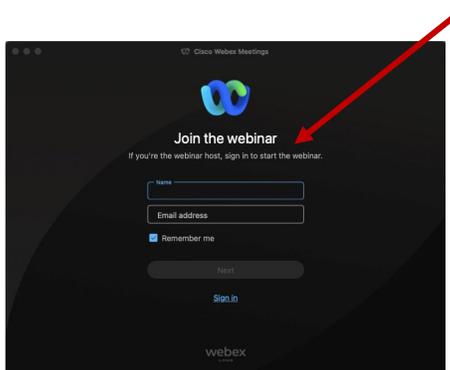
Recommended: Join using the meeting link.

- 1 Click on the meeting link. This can be found in the meeting notice you received and is on the meeting agenda.
- 2 If you already have Webex on your device, click the bottom instruction, "Join from the Webex app."

If you have **not** previously used Webex on your device, your web browser will offer "Download the Webex app." Follow the download link and follow the instructions to install Webex.



- 3 Enter your name and email address*. Click "Next." Accept any request for permission to use your microphone and/or camera.



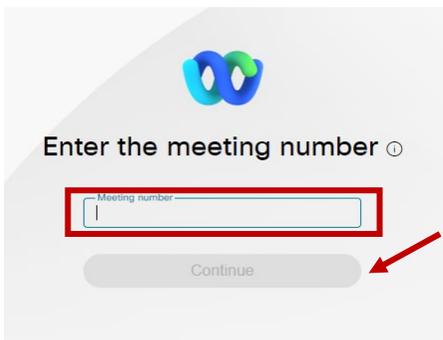
*Members of the public are not obligated to provide their name or personal information and may provide a unique identifier such as their initials or another alternative as well as a fictitious email address like in the following sample format: XXXXX@mailinator.com.

Alternative 1. Join from Webex.com

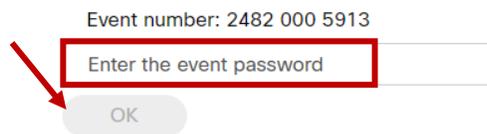
1 Click on “Join a Meeting” at the top of the Webex window.



2 Enter the meeting/event number and click “Continue.” Enter the event password and click “OK.” This can be found in the meeting notice you received or on the meeting agenda.



To view more information about the event, enter the event password.



3 The meeting information will be displayed. Click “Join Event.”

< Back to List

Meeting Name

Jones, Shelly@DCA | 9:45 AM - 9:55 AM | Thursday, Oct 14 2021 |
(UTC-07:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)



Join Event

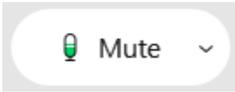
OR

Alternative 2. Connect via Telephone

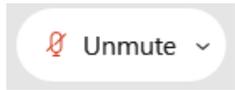


You may also join the meeting by calling in using the phone number, access code, and passcode provided in the meeting notice or on the agenda.

Microphone control (mute/unmute button) is located at the bottom of your Webex window.



Green microphone = Unmuted: People in the meeting can hear you.



Red microphone = Muted: No one in the meeting can hear you.

Note: Only panelists can mute/unmute their own microphones. Attendees will remain muted unless the moderator invites them to unmute their microphone. Only panelists will be offered starting their video camera.

Attendees/Members of the Public

Joined via Meeting Link

The moderator will call you by name and indicate a request has been sent to unmute your microphone. Upon hearing this prompt:

Click the Unmute me button on the pop-up box that appears.



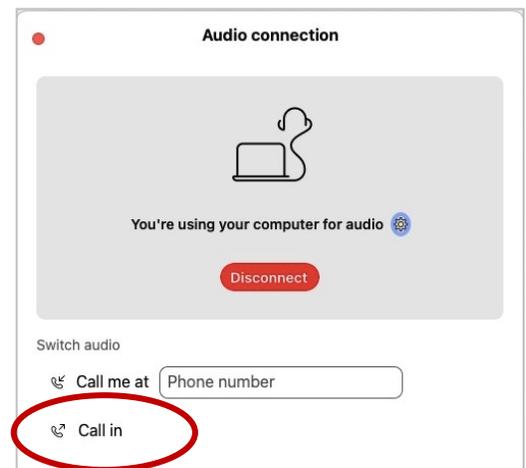
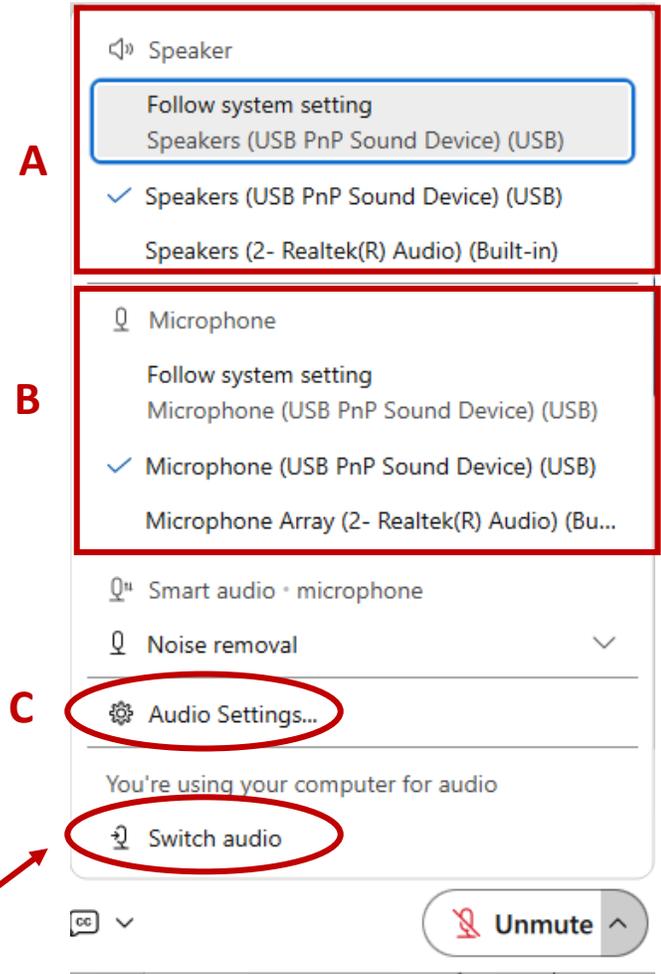
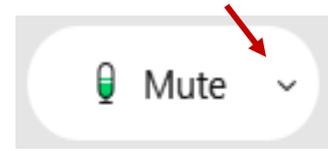
Joined via Telephone (Call-in User)



- When you are asked to unmute yourself, press *6.
- When you are finished speaking, press *6 to mute yourself again.

If you cannot hear or be heard

- 1 Click on the bottom facing arrow located on the Mute/Unmute button at the bottom of the Webex window.
- 2 From the drop-down menu, select different:
 - A. Speaker options if **you can't hear** participants.
 - B. Microphone options if **participants can't hear you**.
 - C. Audio settings will offer testing of your devices, and let you choose a different device.
- 3 To link your phone to your Webex session, enabling your phone to become your microphone and speaker source:
 - Click on "Switch audio".
 - Select "Call in", which will show the phone number to call and the meeting login information.



Joined via Meeting Link

- Locate the hand icon at the bottom of the Webex window.
- Click the hand icon to raise your hand.
- Repeat this process to lower your hand.



The moderator will call you by name and indicate a request has been sent to unmute your microphone.

Upon hearing this prompt:

Click the Unmute me button on the pop-up box that appears.



Joined via Telephone (Call-in User)

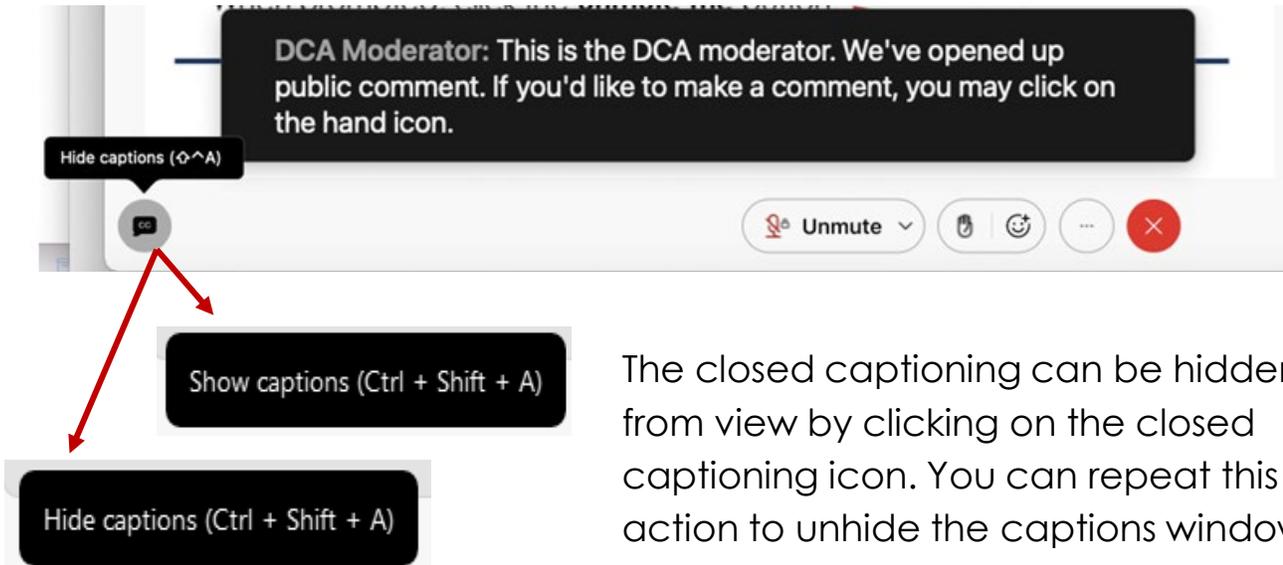


Press *3 to raise or lower your hand.

- When you are asked to unmute yourself, press *6.
- When you are finished speaking, press *6 to mute yourself again.

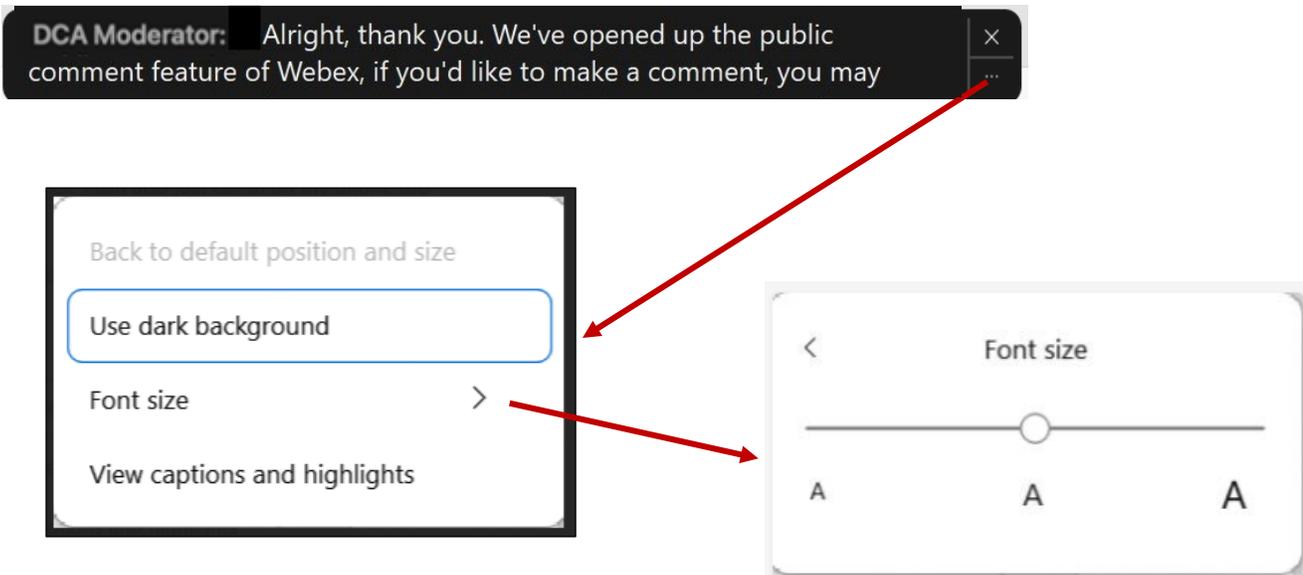


Webex provides real-time closed captioning displayed in a dialog box in your Webex window. The captioning box can be moved by clicking on the box and dragging it to another location on your screen.



The closed captioning can be hidden from view by clicking on the closed captioning icon. You can repeat this action to unhide the captions window.

You can view the closed captioning dialog box with a light or dark background or change the font size by clicking the 3 dots on the right side of the dialog box.





Member	Present	Absent
Julie Elginer		
Sonia "Pat" Hansen		
Sherman King		
Michael Long		
Joanne Pacheco		
Sridevi Ponnala		
Nicolas Quach		
Lolly Agarwal		

Friday, March 13, 2026

Dental Hygiene Board of California

FULL Board Agenda Item 1.

Roll Call & Establishment of Quorum.

Board Secretary to call the Roll.



Friday, March 13, 2026

Dental Hygiene Board of California

FULL Board Agenda Item 2.

Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda.

[The Board may not discuss or act on any matter raised during the Public Comment section that is not included on this agenda, except whether to decide to place the matter on the agenda of a future meeting (Government Code Sections 11125 & 11125.7(a).]



Friday, March 13, 2026

Dental Hygiene Board of California

FULL Board Agenda Item 3.

**Discussion and Possible Action to take a position on
Assembly Bill (AB) 1952 Berman: Dentistry: Dental
Hygienists: Licensure.**



MEMORANDUM

DATE	March 13, 2026
TO	Education Committee Dental Hygiene Board of California
FROM	Adina A. Pineschi-Petty DDS Education, Legislative, and Regulatory Specialist
SUBJECT	FULL 3: Discussion and Possible Action to take a position on Assembly Bill (AB) 1952 Berman: Dentistry: Dental Hygienists: Licensure.

Assembly Member Berman: Dentistry: Dental Hygienists: Licensure.

This bill would require the Dental Hygiene Board of California to license as a registered dental hygienist an applicant who has earned a degree from a nonaccredited dental school if that degree is equivalent to a doctor of dental surgery or doctor of dental medicine degree.

The bill would require, as a condition of licensure, an applicant to meet certain requirements, including:

1. Submission of verification of the above-described equivalence, as determined by Educational Credential Evaluators.
2. Satisfactory completion of the following examinations:
 - a. A dental hygiene examination or dental examination, either of which are given by the Western Regional Examining Board or the American Board of Dental Examiners, or any other clinical or dental hygiene examination approved by the dental board.
 - b. The National Board Dental Hygiene Examination or the Integrated National Board Dental Examination.
 - c. The examination in California law and ethics as prescribed line 21 by the dental hygiene board.
3. Satisfactory completion of specific coursework including:
 - a. A two-unit Dental Practice Act course approved by the dental board.
 - b. An eight-unit infection control course approved by the dental board.
 - c. Instruction in the following, approved by the dental hygiene board:
 - i. Gingival soft-tissue curettage.
 - ii. Nitrous oxide-oxygen analgesia.
 - iii. Local anesthesia.

- d. Current, valid certification in basic life support offered by a course consistent with Section 1016, 1016.2, or 1017 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations.
4. Submission of a completed application form and all fees required by the dental hygiene board.

ACTION REQUESTED:

Staff recommends for the Board to take a position of “oppose, unless amended” on Assembly Bill 1952 Berman: Dentistry: Dental Hygienists: Licensure.

PROPOSED MOTION LANGUAGE:

Motion for the Full Board to take a position of “oppose, unless amended” on Assembly Bill 1952 Berman: Dentistry: Dental Hygienists: Licensure.

Suggested amendment: Amend AB 1952 to add a minimum 300-hour dental hygiene training and work experience requirement under the supervision of a CA licensed dentist in the interest of consumer protection to the bill’s requirements. The Board could issue a special permit valid for two years for the applicant to accumulate the work experience and submit it with the other requirements to obtain the CA dental hygiene license.

Attachments:

1. Assembly Bill 1952.
2. Legislative Calendar.

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1952

Introduced by Assembly Member Berman

February 13, 2026

An act to add Section 1917.2 to the Business and Professions Code, relating to healing arts.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1952, as introduced, Berman. Dentistry: dental hygienists: licensure.

Existing law, the Dental Practice Act, provides for the licensure and regulation of dental hygienists by the Dental Hygiene Board of California. Existing law requires the board to license as a registered dental hygienist a person who satisfies specified requirements, including completion of a prescribed education program, satisfactory completion of an examination in California law and ethics, and satisfactory performance, within the preceding 3 years, of the dental hygiene examination given by the Western Regional Examining Board or any other clinical or dental hygiene examination approved by the board.

This bill would authorize the board to license as a registered dental hygienist an applicant who has earned a degree from a nonaccredited dental school if that degree is equivalent to a doctor of dental surgery or doctor of dental medicine degree, as specified. The bill would require, as a condition of licensure, an applicant to meet certain requirements, including, among other things, submission of verification of the above-described equivalence, as specified, satisfactory completion of specified examinations, and satisfactory completion of certain coursework, including, among other things, a 2-unit Dental Practice

Act course approved by the Dental Board of California, within the 3 years preceding application.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.

State-mandated local program: no.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 1917.2 is added to the Business and
2 Professions Code, to read:

3 1917.2. The dental hygiene board may grant a license as a
4 registered dental hygienist to an applicant who has earned a degree
5 from a nonaccredited dental school equivalent to a doctor of dental
6 surgery or doctor of dental medicine if they meet the following
7 requirements within the preceding three years:

8 (a) Submission of verification from Educational Credential
9 Evaluators confirming the academic equivalence of the applicant's
10 dental degree to a doctor of dental surgery or doctor of dental
11 medicine degree from a program accredited by the Commission
12 on Dental Accreditation.

13 (b) Satisfactory completion of the following examinations:

14 (1) A dental hygiene examination or dental examination, either
15 of which are given by the Western Regional Examining Board or
16 the American Board of Dental Examiners, or any other clinical or
17 dental hygiene examination approved by the dental board.

18 (2) The National Board Dental Hygiene Examination or the
19 Integrated National Board Dental Examination.

20 (3) The examination in California law and ethics as prescribed
21 by the dental hygiene board.

22 (c) Satisfactory completion of the following coursework:

23 (1) A two-unit Dental Practice Act course approved by the dental
24 board.

25 (2) An eight-unit infection control course approved by the dental
26 board.

27 (3) Instruction in the following, approved by the dental hygiene
28 board:

29 (A) Gingival soft-tissue curettage.

30 (B) Nitrous oxide-oxygen analgesia.

31 (C) Local anesthesia.

- 1 (4) Current, valid certification in basic life support offered by
- 2 a course consistent with Section 1016, 1016.2, or 1017 of Title 16
- 3 of the California Code of Regulations.
- 4 (d) Submission of a completed application form and all fees
- 5 required by the dental hygiene board.

O



February 17, 2026

The Honorable Marc Berman
Assembly District 23
1021 O Street, Suite 8130
Sacramento, California 95814

AB 1954 (Berman)
OPPOSE UNLESS
AMENDED

Dear Assemblymember Berman,

Our client, the **California Dental Hygienists' Association (CDHA)**, must oppose AB 1952 unless amended. The bill requires the Dental Hygiene Board of California to provide an alternative pathway for internationally trained dentists to practice dental hygiene in California.

Dentists from other countries come to California to practice dentistry – not dental hygiene.

Dental Hygiene programs, which can be completed within 18 - 24 months, are already a low barrier to entry for the few international dentists who do want to become Registered Dental Hygienists (RDHs). They become dental hygienists as a way to work in the oral health field while taking the required education to become licensed dentists.

Dental hygiene education is not comparable to dental education and foreign dental education is not equivalent to California dental hygiene standards. Dental Hygiene programs focus on public health, preventive and periodontal care, treatments, patient education and pharmacology. Dental Hygiene programs provide a completely different track than dental programs which provide doctoral level degrees focused on restorative care and treatments. Allowing foreign dental training to qualify for dental hygiene practice, without completing an approved dental hygiene education pathway, risks creating an uneven standard of preparation, which could directly impact the consistency and quality of care the public receives.

Given the significant difference in the education and training between dental hygiene and dental programs, and the fact that foreign dental education does not align with California's dental hygiene curriculum and clinical competencies, it is unsuitable to require the Dental Hygiene Board of California to provide oversight of a dentist from another country. That oversight lies with the Dental Board of California. Placing the burden of creating an expensive new program and oversight requirements on the Dental Hygiene Board of California, and passing those costs onto dental hygienists, to serve international dentists is unworkable and unjust.

Dental Hygiene Staffing. The number of dental hygiene programs and the number of Registered Dental Hygienists (RDHs) continue to grow. California produces over 800 RDHs annually. Many dental offices do not provide dental hygiene services, so they have no need to hire a dental hygienist. Often one dental hygienist works for multiple dentists in a dental office. Dental offices that do not provide dental hygiene services are oral surgery, endodontics, orthodontics, and prosthodontics. The American Association of Pediatric Dentists (AAPD) reports the number of pediatric offices hiring dental hygienists has decreased, while the number of pediatric practices has increased. Twenty-two (22%) percent of the pediatric dentists in the west report they provide their own dental hygiene

services. We understand the Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI) is doing a deep dive on dental hygiene workforce. They are gathering data to analyze and will provide findings. Any absolute conclusions on dental hygiene workforce in advance of HCAI's report is pre-mature. (See also CDHA's workforce backgrounder attached.)

Creating more dental hygienists. While there seem to be regional shortages of dental hygienists, the proponents state this bill would allow more international dentists to work as dental hygienists and help with staffing problems. **There is no certainty that dental offices that experience difficulty in attracting and retaining dental hygienists would gain a dental hygienist from creating an expensive new dental hygiene program for dentists.** Exorbitant costs of living in certain areas, negative office culture, part time work and no health benefits remain as barriers for dentists to attract and retain dental hygienists.

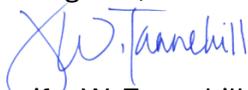
Dentists are authorized to provide dental hygiene care under a dental license. The dental practice act allows dentists to provide dental hygiene. Dentists are regulated by the Dental Board of California. The board is expert at what dental practice should be and what dental education programs must offer in order to comport with the highest standard of dental care.

There is a solution. The proponents are attempting to address two issues with this bill. Dental hygienist staffing and creating a new pathway for internationally trained dentists to work in California. Internationally trained dentists come to California with the objective of practicing dentistry. The solution is to **create a restricted dental license for internationally trained dentists while they work to become licensed dentists in California. A restricted dental license would allow dental hygiene duties, which are included in a dental license, along with limited restorative duties. The dentist operating under the restricted dental license would practice under the supervision of a licensed dentist, who would then receive dental hygiene support from the dentist working under the restricted license if desired. The Dental Board of California is the ideal regulator for a restricted dental license and a pathway for internationally trained dentists.**

It is for these reasons CDHA must respectfully oppose AB 1952 unless amended.

Thank you for considering CDHA's position. We have enjoyed working with you and your team over the years and we look forward to working with you on this issue as well. I'm available to discuss this measure and CDHA's proposed amendments at your convenience. Please reach me via my mobile 916 747 8321 or email jtannehill@aaronread.com.

Best regards,



Jennifer W. Tannehill
Legislative Advocate

cc: Members and Consultants, Assembly Business & Professions Committee

2026 TENTATIVE LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR

COMPILED BY THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE AND THE OFFICE OF THE ASSEMBLY CHIEF CLERK
Revised September 29, 2025

DEADLINES

JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

- Jan. 1** Statutes take effect (Art. IV, Sec. 8(c)).
- Jan. 5** Legislature reconvenes (J.R. 51(a)(4)).
- Jan. 10** Budget must be submitted by Governor (Art. IV, Sec. 12 (a)).
- Jan. 16** Last day for **policy committees** to hear and report to fiscal committees **fiscal bills** introduced in their house in the odd-numbered year (J.R. 61(b)(1)).
- Jan. 19** Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.
- Jan. 23** Last day for any committee to hear and report to the **Floor** bills introduced in that house in the odd-numbered year (J.R. 61(b)(2)). Last day to **submit bill requests** to the Office of Legislative Counsel.
- Jan. 31** Last day for each house to **pass bills introduced** in that house in the odd-numbered year (Art. IV, Sec. 10(c)), (J.R. 61(b)(3)).

FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
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- Feb. 16** Presidents' Day.
- Feb. 20** Last day for bills to be **introduced** (J.R. 61(b)(4)), (J.R. 54(a)).

MARCH						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
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29	30	31				

- Mar. 26** **Spring Recess** begins upon adjournment (J.R. 51(b)(1)).
- Mar. 30** Cesar Chavez Day observed.

APRIL						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
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26	27	28	29	30		

- Apr. 6** Legislature reconvenes from **Spring Recess** (J.R. 51(b)(1)).
- Apr. 24** Last day for **policy committees** to hear and report to fiscal committees **fiscal bills** introduced in their house (J.R. 61(b)(5)).

MAY						
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- May 1** Last day for **policy committees** to hear and report to the Floor **non-fiscal bills** introduced in their house (J.R. 61(b)(6)).
- May 8** Last day for **policy committees** to meet prior to June 1 (J.R. 61(b)(7)).
- May 15** Last day for **fiscal committees** to hear and report to the Floor bills introduced in their house (J.R. 61 (b)(8)). Last day for **fiscal committees** to meet prior to June 1 (J.R. 61 (b)(9)).
- May 25** Memorial Day.
- May 26 – 29 Floor Session only.** No committees, other than conference or Rules committees, may meet for any purpose (J.R. 61(b)(10)).
- May 29** Last day for each house to pass bills introduced in that house (J.R. 61(b)(11)).

*Holiday schedule subject to Senate Rules committee approval.

2026 TENTATIVE LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR

COMPILED BY THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE AND THE OFFICE OF THE ASSEMBLY CHIEF CLERK
Revised September 29, 2025

JUNE						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
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28	29	30				

- June 1** Committee meetings may resume (J.R. 61(b)(12)).
- June 15** Budget Bill must be passed by **midnight** (Art. IV, Sec. 12(c)(3)).
- June 25** Last day for a legislative measure to qualify for the Nov. 3 General Election ballot (Elections Code Sec. 9040).

JULY						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
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- July 2** Last day for **policy committees** to meet and report bills (J.R. 61(b)(13)). **Summer Recess** begins upon adjournment of session, provided Budget Bill has passed (J.R. 51(b)(2)).
- July 3** Independence Day observed.

AUGUST						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

- Aug. 3** Legislature reconvenes from **Summer Recess** (J.R. 51(b)(2)).
- Aug. 14** Last day for **fiscal committees** to meet and report bills to the Floor (J.R. 61(b)(14)).
- Aug. 17 – 31 Floor Session only.** No committee, other than conference and Rules committees, may meet for any purpose (J.R. 61(b)(15)).
- Aug. 21** Last day to **amend** on the Floor (J.R. 61(b)(16)).
- Aug. 31** Last day for **each house to pass bills** (Art. IV, Sec. 10(c)), (J.R. 61(b)(17)). **Final recess** begins upon adjournment. (J.R. 51(b)(3)).

*Holiday schedule subject to Senate Rules committee approval.

IMPORTANT DATES OCCURRING DURING FINAL RECESS

2026

- Sept. 30 Last day for Governor to sign or veto bills passed by the Legislature before Sept. 1 and in the Governor’s possession on or after Sept. 1 (Art. IV, Sec. 10(b)(2)).
- Nov. 3 General Election.
- Nov. 30 Adjournment *sine die* at midnight (Art. IV, Sec. 3(a)).
- Dec. 7 12 Noon convening of the 2027-28 Regular Session (Art. IV, Sec. 3(a)).

2027

- Jan. 1 Statutes take effect (Art. IV, Sec. 8(c)).



Friday, March 13, 2026

Dental Hygiene Board of California

FULL Board Agenda Item 4.

**Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the
November 8, 2025, Full Board Meeting Minutes.**



Dental Hygiene Board of California Full Board Meeting Minutes

DRAFT

Saturday, November 8, 2025

DHBC Headquarters Building
2005 Evergreen Street
1st Floor Hearing Room
Sacramento, CA 95815

DHBC Members Present:

President – Joanne Pacheco, Registered Dental Hygienist (RDH) Educator Member
Vice President – Sonia “Pat” Hansen, RDH Member
Registered Dental Hygienist in Alternative Practice (RDHAP) Member – Michael Long
Public Member – Dr. Julie Elginer
Public Member – Sherman King
Public Member – Dr. Justin Matthews
Public Member – Nicolas Kiet Quach

DHBC Members Absent:

Secretary – Naleni “Lolly” Tribble-Agarwal, RDH Member
Public Health Dentist Member – Dr. Sridevi Ponnala

DHBC Staff Present:

Anthony Lum, Executive Officer
Adina A. Pineschi-Petty, Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS), Education, Legislative, and Regulatory Specialist
Crystal Yuyama, Administrative Analyst
Yuping Lin, Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Legal Counsel
Elizabeth Dietzen-Olsen, DCA Regulatory Legal Counsel

Joanne Pacheco, President of the Dental Hygiene Board of California (DHBC, Board) reviewed meeting guidelines and called the meeting to order at **9:06 a.m.** Executive Officer (EO) Anthony Lum provided directions to the nearest emergency exits and restroom locations. The meeting then transitioned to allow for the Legislative and Regulatory Committee meeting and subsequently the Education Committee to meet. The Full Board meeting commenced following the adjournment of the Education Committee meeting.

1. FULL Board Agenda Item 1: Roll Call and Establishment of a Quorum.

Joanne Pacheco, Board President called the meeting to order at **11:45 a.m.** Board Staff completed the roll call, and a quorum was established with seven (7) members present.

2. FULL Board Agenda Item 2: Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda.

Board Member comment: None.

Public comment: None.

3. FULL Board Agenda Item 3: President's Report.

President Pacheco introduced the new Board member, Nicolas Kiet Quach. Member Quach provided a brief background on his professional and governmental experience and expressed his gratitude to serve as a Board member.

Joanne Pacheco, Board President, reported on the following:

President Pacheco attended and participated in the Dental Board of California's (DBC) November 7, 2025, meeting in Sacramento where she provided an update of the DHBC's activities, projects, and program status. She reported that the DHBC and DBC continue their collaborative efforts and discussions on many issues to maintain our dental relationships.

President Pacheco participated and co-chaired with Member Elginer the Board's taskforce to address a penalty rubric for the dental hygiene educational programs that are non-compliant of the California laws and Commission on Dental Accreditation Standards. She stated they have met seven (7) times so far and are progressing well on a draft rubric to present to the Education Committee at a future meeting. She stated it is a complex issue, and they are attempting to incorporate many scenarios that could face the Board and determine appropriate penalties for them.

She completed the October 22, 2025, Board Member Orientation Training to comply with the Board member requirements. She stated that this version was one of the most comprehensive and informative trainings to prepare board members for their service.

President Pacheco attended the California Dental Hygiene Educator's Association's meeting in September representing herself and not the Board and shared that the educators expressed positive words and opinions in working with Board staff during site visits and communications with their respective programs.

The President stated she and EO Lum maintain frequent communication for updates on Board issues and for items that need her attention.

President Pacheco announced that this meeting would Member Matthews last Board meeting, because he did not seek reappointment due to other commitments. She thanked him for his valuable input, discussions, and dialogue on important DHBC topics.

Board Member comment: Member Matthews commented that he has enjoyed working the past three (3) years on the Board and expressed his contentment with the Board tackling important issues and making good decisions with the goal of protecting consumers in California. Member Matthews thanked the Board for his time spent as a member and hopes for the continued success of the DHBC.

Public comment: None.

4. **FULL Board Agenda Item 4: Update from the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Executive Staff.**

Judie Bucciarelli, Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Board and Bureau Relations Representative, welcomed the recently appointed member, Nicolas Quach to the Board and thanked member Justin Matthews for his service to the Board. Ms. Bucciarelli reported on the following:

a. **Board and Bureau Relations Team**

Governor Newsom has appointed two new leaders to the Department's Executive Team.

Governor Newsom appointed Lucy Saldivar as the Deputy Director of Board and Bureau Relations. Lucy previously served as Chief of Staff in the Office of Assemblymember Lisa Calderon since 2022 and Legislative Director from 2021 to 2022. She has held multiple roles in the Office of Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin from 2017 to 2021. Lucy is a member of the Hispanas Organized for Political Equality (HOPE) Leadership Institute and the California Latino Capitol Association Foundation.

Shelly Jones was appointed by Governor Newsom as the Assistant Deputy Director of Board and Bureau Relations. Shelly brings 29 years of experience working with boards. She has been with DCA since 2015, serving in several capacities with Board and Bureau Relations, as well as in the DCA's Strategic Organizational Leadership and Individual Development and Organizational Improvement Offices. Prior to joining DCA, she served in multiple roles at the Juvenile Parole Board of the California Department of Corrections.

After 36 years with DCA, Director Kimberly Kirchmeyer will retire at the end of the year. She began as a student assistant in 1989 and was appointed DCA Director in 2019, leading the Department through major challenges including wildfires and the COVID-19 pandemic and the transition to telework. She extends her gratitude for your service and dedication to DCA's mission.

b. Sexual Harassment Prevention Training

Sexual Harassment Prevention Training is required within 30 days of appointment and every two years thereafter. On October 27th, DCA launched its new Sexual Harassment Prevention Training in the Learning Management System (LMS).

- If Board Members completed the 2024/2025 Sexual Harassment Prevention Training during the 2024/2025 calendar years, the new course will be automatically assigned to the Board Member's LMS account two months (60 days) before the two-year deadline.
- If Board Members have not completed the 2024/2025 Sexual Harassment Prevention Training, the new course was assigned to the Board Member's LMS account on October 27, 2025, and should be completed as soon as possible.

Future deadlines will be either two years from the last completion date or December 27th for those Board Members who have not yet taken the training. The course will automatically be reassigned 22 months from your last completion date.

c. Unconscious Bias Training

DCA has developed new "Unconscious Bias Training" for Board Members. This training will appear in the Board Member's LMS account in November and will be incorporated in the onboarding of new Board Members. Training records are available in the "Transcript" section of LMS. For assistance, contact MemberRelations@dca.ca.gov.

d. Our Promise Campaign Launch – State Employees Giving at Work Campaign

Through the Our Promise California, State employees and Board Members can support nonprofit through payroll contributions or one-time donations. The campaign runs through December 31, 2025. Additional information will be emailed to Board Members this month. Any questions may be directed to Board and Bureau Relations.

Board Member comment: Member Elginer asked if there was an update on the Governor's reorganization plan for DCA and splitting into two agencies. Ms. Bucciarelli stated that she did not have an update, but that information could be available on the Governor's website.

Public comment: None.

5. FULL Board Agenda Item 5: Update from the Dental Board of California (DBC).

Dr. Steven Chan, President of the DBC thanked EO Lum and members of the Board for the opportunity to provide an update. The DBC's Interim Executive Officer, Christy Bell was also present.

Dr. Chan reported on the following:

- The DBC held its most recent meetings on November 6-7, 2025, in Sacramento. The next DBC meeting will be held in February 2026, in Sacramento.
- The DBC's current Strategic Plan expires at the end of the year. On November 5, 2025, the DBC held a strategic planning meeting to work on the new plan.
- The DBC has named Bryce Docherty as its Executive Officer, effective November 24, 2025.
- Dr. Chan announced that the DBC has three new Board members that have been appointed this year and have two remaining vacancies on the DBC.
- The DBC is beginning the regulatory process for the infection control regulations that have been approved by both the DBC and DHBC.
- Dr. Chan stated that he looks forward to the continued partnership with the DHBC, especially as the DBC continues to update its dental assisting regulations.

Board Member comment: EO Lum expressed his gratitude and appreciation to Dr. Chan and EO Christy Bell for their welcoming disposition and the continued collaborative efforts between the DHBC and DBC.

Public comment: None.

6. FULL Board Agenda Item 6: Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the July 19, 2025, Full Board Meeting Minutes.

Motion: Member Matthews moved to approve the July 19, 2025, Full Board Meeting Minutes.

Second: Member Long.

Board Member discussion: None.

Public comment: None.

Vote: Motion to approve the July 19, 2025, Full Board Meeting Minutes. Passed 6:0:3.

Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain/Absent
Lolly Agarwal			Absent.
Julie Elginer	X		
Sonia "Pat" Hansen	X		
Sherman King	X		
Michael Long	X		
Justin Matthews	X		
Joanne Pacheco	X		
Sridevi Ponnala			Absent.
Nicolas Kiet Quach			Abstain.

7. FULL Board Agenda Item 9: Executive Officer's Report. (Informational Only).

EO Anthony Lum reported on the following:

a. Personnel:

EO Lum reported that the DHBC continues to have four (4) vacant positions, as one position was recently filled and another staff left for promotion at another program. He stated that there are currently two other positions in various stages of the hiring process, of which one is under review for reconfiguration of duties to address DHBC needs. EO Lum emphasized that for a smaller program like the DHBC it is important to be very selective in who is hired to maintain the cohesiveness of the team and takes time to do this through the hiring process.

b. Budget:

EO Lum stated that the latest Budget Report documents were in the Full Board meeting materials on pages 60 through 65.

The Expenditure Projection Report on page 62 shows anticipated expenses through the end of the year. EO Lum states that it will be adjusted throughout the year depending on the expenses incurred including the refilling of staff positions. EO Lum stated that the final numbers from the last fiscal year are now included since those numbers were not available at the July meeting.

The Board's Revenue Report is on pages 63 to 64 and shows the amount of revenue the Board has received this year. He stated that the report shows early results, but later

reports will be more accurate to use in projections for the anticipated amount of revenue expected to be received for the remainder of the year.

The Fund Condition Report, which is our “savings account” by fiscal year, on page 65 shows the amount of dollars available in the fund to indicate the fiscal health of the Board and the duration in months the Board could operate without any further revenue. He reported the fund continues to be good standing. He stated that there will be gradual decrease in subsequent years as vacancies are filled although he states that this should not have a significant impact on the report to require additional revenue to be considered.

c. Administration – EO Activities and Updates:

EO Lum stated that since his last report, the following were some of his activities:

- He participated in the Department of Consumer Affairs’ September 2025 Leadership and DCA Director’s Quarterly Meetings where current issues affecting programs were discussed.
- He conducted a townhall meeting in September to obtain RDHAP licensee input to the proposed revisions to California Code of Regulation (CCR), Title 16, sections 1116 and 1116.5. He reported it was a highly productive meeting as staff and stakeholders were able to explain their positions regarding the regulatory amendments.
- He reported that he maintains good relations with the DBC and participated in their August and November Board meetings with President Pacheco. EO Lum thanked the DBC staff for any assistance they provided while he was away from the office on vacation. He stated that he appreciates the continued collaboration between the two Boards.
- He stated he received email announcing DCA Director, Kimberly Kirchmeyer is retiring at the end of this year after a 35+ year career under DCA. EO Lum stated that she has been a stable supporter of all DCA programs and a wealth of knowledge and experience. He expressed well wishes for her as she enters retirement.
- He stated that he is considering starting a second team of Educational Program site visitors to accommodate the increased workload (e.g. regular site visits, follow up site visits, and review of reports received).
- He wanted to inform and remind the Board that he believes the DHBC has a great staff. He stated that the Board is small, but mighty and it takes a lot of work to prepare for the Board meetings and complete all the daily program operations

concurrently. He stated he appreciates their hard work and all their efforts to complete the Board's mission of consumer protection.

Board Member comment: None.

Public comment: None.

8. FULL Board Agenda Item 8: Discussion and Possible Action on DHBC Election of Board Officers and Update on 2026 Meeting Dates.

The members agreed to vote for a slate of three (3) Board Officers in a single vote.

Member Long nominated the current slate of officers: Joanne Pacheco as President, Sonia "Pat" Hansen as Vice President, and Naleni "Lolly" Tribble-Agarwal as Secretary, to be the Board Officers for 2026.

Motion: Member Long recommended for the Board to approve the following Board Officers for 2026: Joanne Pacheco as President, Sonia "Pat" Hansen as Vice President, and Naleni "Lolly" Tribble-Agarwal as Secretary.

Second: Member Elginer.

Board Member discussion: Member Elginer stated that she is fully supportive of the current slate of officers and their current nomination for 2026; however, she noted that there is no public member represented in the executive board members and would like for a plan to ensure public members participate in executive officer positions in the future.

President Pacheco thanked the Board for electing her as President and finds it to be a privilege to serve colleagues and the DHBC.

Public comment: None.

Vote: Motion for the Board to approve the following Board Officers for 2026: Joanne Pacheco as President, Sonia "Pat" Hansen as Vice President, and Naleni "Lolly" Tribble-Agarwal as Secretary. Passed 6:0:3.

Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain/Absent
Lolly Agarwal			Absent.
Julie Elginer	X		
Sonia “Pat” Hansen	X		
Sherman King	X		
Michael Long	X		
Justin Matthews			Abstain.
Joanne Pacheco	X		
Sridevi Ponnala			Absent.
Nicolas Kiet Quach	X		

The members engaged in a thorough discussion regarding the scheduling dates for the November 2026 Meeting Dates. Factors considered included alignment with the DBC meeting dates, whether the DHBC may have a one- or two-day Board meeting(s), personal and professional scheduling conflicts, the California Dental Hygienists’ Association’s (CDHA’s) annual conference, and the DHBC’s Sunset Review timeline. The Board decided to wait for an upcoming Board meeting to better determine the November 2026 Board meeting date. As a placeholder, the Board has considered November 7, 2026, if it is a one-day meeting, or November 15-16, 2026, if it is a two-day meeting.

9. FULL Board Agenda Item 9: Discussion and Possible Action on Updating the Board Member Procedural Manual.

Motion: President Pacheco recommended for the Board to create an “Ad Hoc Committee” of two Board members to address the update and revision of the Board Member Procedural Manual and bring back the draft of the manual at a future meeting for Board consideration.

Second: Member Matthews.

Board Member discussion: Member Elginer commented she fully supports the Board Member Procedural Manual being reviewed and updated. She later stated four (4) items for the Ad Hoc Committee to consider when drafting their revisions:

1. Regarding the mention of submitting a resignation letter to the Governor on page one (1) of the DHBC Member Guidelines and Procedure Manual (or page 72 in the Full Board Meeting materials), Member Elginer states that the resignation letters be sent to the appointing body.

2. Consider adding in a legislation teleconference meeting into the standard meeting dates (on page 9 of the manual or page 80 in the Full Board Meeting materials).
3. In the “Training & Certification” section of the manual, consider adding language that allows for changes to the list of mandated trainings assigned by DCA, so that the manual does not need to be revised each time a new training is added.
4. Consider adding a line item in the manual for members to disclose that they are a member of the Board when receiving dental hygienist services. This consideration was discussed in length by the members and the EO on whether members should be required to this type of disclosure during their teeth cleaning appointments.

The motion was amended to insert the names of the two members who volunteered to be placed on the “Ad Hoc Committee” and was accepted by the motion-maker.

Amended Motion: President Pacheco recommended for the Board to create an “Ad Hoc Committee” of two Board members consisting of Member Long and Member Quach to address the update and revision of the Board Member Procedural Manual and bring back the draft of the manual at a future meeting for Board consideration.

Public comment: None.

Later in the meeting, Member Elginer asked to revisit Agenda Item 9: Discussion and Possible Action on Updating the Board Member Procedural Manual, to add a consideration for the manual revisions. She stated that similar to there being an “Explanations of Enforcement Term” she would like to request the addition of an explanation of legislative and regulatory terms, including positions on bills (e.g. watch, support, support if amended, oppose, and oppose unless amended).

Vote: Motion for the Board to create an “Ad Hoc Committee” of two Board members consisting of Member Long and Member Quach to address the update and revision of the Board Member Procedural Manual. Passed 7:0:2.

Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain/Absent
Lolly Agarwal			Absent.
Julie Elginer	X		
Sonia “Pat” Hansen	X		
Sherman King	X		
Michael Long	X		
Justin Matthews	X		
Joanne Pacheco	X		
Sridevi Ponnala			Absent.
Nicolas Kiet Quach	X		

10. FULL Board Agenda Item 10: Discussion and Possible Action on Legislative and Regulatory Committee Report and Recommendation(s).

Legislative and Regulatory Committee Chair, Michael Long, stated that because there were action items that required individual recommendations, each item would be reported separately, but on the informational only items, a summary was provided at the end of the Legislative and Regulatory Committee report.

Chair Long reported that the Legislative and Regulatory Committee established a quorum and asked for public comment for items not on the agenda. There were not any public comments.

FULL Board Agenda Item 10: LEG REG Agenda Item (4): Discussion and Possible Action on Amendments to California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 16, Sections 1116: Mobile Dental Hygiene Clinics; Issuance of Approval and 1116.5: Registered Dental Hygienist in Alternative Practice; Physical Facility Registration.

Chair Long reported Dr. Petty informed the Legislation and Regulatory Committee that the Board was advised of some confusion regarding the requirements for registration of physical facilities as a stand-alone practice versus registration of physical facilities to maintain portable equipment for registered dental hygienists in alternative practice (RDHAPs). Additionally, while preparing the package for submission for Department review and public comment, Board staff became aware of a conflicting definition in the regulatory text and the underlying statute. Due to the public comments received, and in the interest of transparency, the Board held a Townhall Meeting on September 12, 2025. The goal of this meeting was to obtain stakeholder input so Board staff may put forth regulations that are easily understood and implemented as regulations provide specific direction for Board staff to implement the provision of broad-based laws the Legislature approved.

He stated Board staff revised the proposed language for clarity and is included under "Legislation and Regulatory Committee Agenda Item 4" on pages 13 through 43 in the Legislation and Regulatory Committee meeting materials packet. Additionally, the Legislation and Regulatory Committee further amended the proposed language and forms and provided the amendments to the Full Board.

Motion: Member King moved for the Full Board to approve the proposed Legislation and Regulatory Committee-amended language and forms for 16 CCR sections 1116 and 1116.5, and direct staff to submit the text to the Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs and the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency for review. If the Board does not receive any comments providing objections or adverse recommendations specifically directed at the proposed action or to the procedures followed by the Board in proposing or adopting the action, the Board authorizes the Executive Officer to take all steps necessary to initiate the rulemaking process, make any technical or non-substantive changes to the package, and set the matter for hearing, if requested. If after the 45-day public comment period, no adverse comments are received, and no public hearing is requested, the Board authorizes the Executive Officer to take all steps necessary to

complete the rulemaking process, and adopt the proposed regulations as described in the text notice for 16 CCR sections 1116 and 1116.5.

Second: Member Matthews.

Board Member discussion: None.

Public comment: None.

Vote: Motion for the Full Board to approve the proposed Legislation and Regulatory Committee-amended language and forms for 16 CCR sections 1116 and 1116.5, and direct staff to submit the text to the Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs and the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency for review. If the Board does not receive any comments providing objections or adverse recommendations specifically directed at the proposed action or to the procedures followed by the Board in proposing or adopting the action, the Board authorizes the Executive Officer to take all steps necessary to initiate the rulemaking process, make any technical or non-substantive changes to the package, and set the matter for hearing, if requested. If after the 45-day public comment period, no adverse comments are received, and no public hearing is requested, the Board authorizes the Executive Officer to take all steps necessary to complete the rulemaking process, and adopt the proposed regulations as described in the text notice for 16 CCR sections 1116 and 1116.5. Passed 7:0:2.

Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain/Absent
Lolly Agarwal			Absent.
Julie Elginer	X		
Sonia "Pat" Hansen	X		
Sherman King	X		
Michael Long	X		
Justin Matthews	X		
Joanne Pacheco	X		
Sridevi Ponnala			Absent.
Nicolas Kiet Quach	X		

FULL Board Agenda Item 10: LEG REG Agenda Item (6): Discussion and Possible Action on Proposed Amendments to the Business and Professions Code:

- a) Add Business and Professions Code (BPC) section 1915.1 – Dental Hygiene Students Participating in Sponsored Health Events: Access to Care.
- b) Amend BPC section 1926.3 – RDHAPs to Report Working Locations for Board Statistics.
- c) Amend BPC section 1941 – Accrediting Agencies for Dental Hygiene Educational Programs.
- d) Add BPC section 1961.5 – Post Board Enforcement Actions on Website and Executive Officer Citation Removal.

Legislative and Regulatory Committee Chair Long stated EO Lum reported that at the November 15-16, 2024, Full Board meeting, the members engaged in a robust discussion regarding amending BPC sections 1915.1, 1926.3, 1941, and 1961.5. The Full Board approved the final draft of proposed statutory language amendments for BPC sections 1915.1, 1926.3, 1941, and 1961.5, and directed staff to seek sponsored legislation for 2025. He stated that unfortunately, Board staff was unable to obtain an author for 2025 and requested for the Legislation and Regulatory Committee to review the amended statutory language and re-affirm the changes are warranted. Additionally, he requested that If the Legislation and Regulatory Committee re-affirms the changes are warranted, for the Legislation and Regulatory Committee recommend to the Full Board to re-affirm and approve the final draft of the proposed statutory language amendments for BPC sections 1915.1, 1926.3, 1941, and 1961.5, and direct staff to seek sponsored legislation for 2026.

The proposed language is included under “Legislation and Regulatory Committee Agenda Item 6” on pages 49 through 56 in the Legislation and Regulatory Committee meeting materials packet.

Motion: Member Elginer moved for the Full Board to re-affirm and approve the final draft of the proposed statutory language amendments for BPC sections 1915.1, 1926.3, 1941, 1961.5, and 1950.1 and direct staff to seek sponsored legislation for 2026.

Second: Member Quach.

Board Member discussion: None.

Public comment: EO Lum clarified that BPC section 1950.1 was added to the motion to separate out the Executive Officer’s ability to remove a citation.

Vote: Motion for the Full Board to re-affirm and approve the final draft of the proposed statutory language amendments for BPC sections 1915.1, 1926.3, 1941, 1961.5, and 1950.1 and direct staff to seek sponsored legislation for 2026. Passed 7:0:2.

Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain/Absent
Lolly Agarwal			Absent.
Julie Elginer	X		
Sonia “Pat” Hansen	X		
Sherman King	X		
Michael Long	X		
Justin Matthews	X		
Joanne Pacheco	X		
Sridevi Ponnala			Absent.
Nicolas Kiet Quach	X		

FULL Board Agenda Item 10: LEG REG Agenda Item (3): Update and Regulatory Townhall Meeting Minutes for CCR section 1116 & 116.5. (Informational Only)., LEG REG Agenda Item (5): Regulatory Update: Status of Dental Hygiene Board of California Regulatory Packages. (Informational Only)., LEG REG Agenda Item (7): Legislative Update: Discussion of 2025 Bills of Interest and Legislative Calendar. (Informational Only)., LEG REG Agenda Item (8): Discussion and Possible Action on the July 19, 2025, Legislative and Regulatory Committee Meeting Minutes, LEG REG Agenda Item (9): Future Agenda Items. (Informational Only).

Chair Long reported that the Legislation and Regulatory Committee was advised of the “informational only” items including LEG REG Committee Agenda Item 3 “Update and Regulatory Townhall Meeting Minutes for CCR section 1116 & 1116.5,” LEG REG Committee Agenda Item 5 “Status of Dental Hygiene Board of California Regulatory Packages,” LEG REG Committee Agenda Item 7 “Legislative Update: Discussion of 2025 Bills of Interest and Legislative Calendar.”

Legislative and Regulatory Committee Chair Long reported that the Committee approved LEG REG Committee Agenda Item 8 “Discussion and Possible Action on the July 19, 2025, Legislation and Regulatory Committee Meeting Minutes.” The Chair stated that there were no future agenda items suggested for LEG REG Committee Agenda Item 9 “Future Agenda Items.”

Board Member discussion: None.

Public comment: None.

Motion: Member Elginer moved for the Board to accept the Legislative and Regulatory Committee’s full report.

Second: Member Long.

Board Member discussion: None.

Public comment: None.

Vote: Motion for the Board to accept the Legislative and Regulatory Committee’s full report. Passed 7:0:2.

Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain/Absent
Lolly Agarwal			Absent.
Julie Elginer	X		
Sonia “Pat” Hansen	X		
Sherman King	X		
Michael Long	X		
Justin Matthews	X		
Joanne Pacheco	X		
Sridevi Ponnala			Absent.
Nicolas Kiet Quach	X		

11. FULL Board Agenda Item 11: Discussion and Possible Action on Education Committee Report and Recommendation(s).

Education Committee Chair Joanne Pacheco stated that because there were action items that required individual recommendations, she reported each item separately, but on the informational only items, a summary was provided at the end of her report.

Chair Pacheco reported a quorum was established and asked for public comment for items not on the agenda. She stated there were no public comments.

FULL Board Agenda Item 11: EDU Agenda Item (4): Discussion and Possible Action on Board Acceptance of the Revised Accreditation Nomenclature Pursuant to the United States Department of Education.

Education Committee Chair Pacheco report that on February 20, 2020, the United States Department of Education (USDE) sent a letter to State Leaders notifying that as the USDE holds all accrediting agencies to the same standards, the distinctions between regional and

national accrediting agencies are unfounded, that the USDE will no longer use the terms "regional" or "national" to refer to an accrediting agency, and that the USDE will distinguish only between "institutional" and "programmatic" accrediting agencies.

She stated at the Board’s November 15, 2024, Education Committee meeting, the members engaged in a robust discussion regarding amending BPC section 1941 to align with USDE accreditation agency terminology. The Education Committee approved the proposed draft statutory language for BPC section 1941 and recommended to the Full Board to consider, complete, and approve the final draft of the proposed statutory language amendment for BPC section 1941. The Full Board approved the final draft of proposed statutory language amendment for BPC section 1941 and directed staff to seek sponsored legislation for 2025; however, staff was unable to obtain legislation in 2025. The proposed language is included under “Education Committee Agenda Item 4” on page 12 in the Education Committee meeting materials packet.

Motion: Member Long moved for the Full Board to re-affirm and approve the final draft of the proposed statutory language amendment for BPC section 1941, and direct staff to seek sponsored legislation for 2026.

Second: Member King.

Board Member discussion: None.

Public comment: None.

Vote: Motion for the Full Board to re-affirm and approve the final draft of the proposed statutory language amendment for BPC section 1941, and direct staff to seek sponsored legislation for 2026. Passed 7:0:2.

Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain/Absent
Lolly Agarwal			Absent.
Julie Elginer	X		
Sonia “Pat” Hansen	X		
Sherman King	X		
Michael Long	X		
Justin Matthews	X		
Joanne Pacheco	X		
Sridevi Ponnala			Absent.
Nicolas Kiet Quach	X		

FULL Board Agenda Item 11: EDU Agenda Item (3): Discussion and Possible Action on the Report from the Dental Hygiene Educational Program Penalty Rubric Taskforce, EDU Agenda Item (5): Dental Hygiene Educational Program Site Visit Update and Schedule. (Informational Only), EDU Agenda Item (6): Discussion and Possible Action on the July 19, 2025, Education Committee Meeting Minutes, and EDU Agenda Item (7): Future Agenda Items.

Education Committee Chair Pacheco reported that since the Dental Hygiene Educational Program Penalty Rubric Taskforce conducted their first meeting on June 4, 2025, the Taskforce has met seven (7) times and categorized the violations utilizing the factors as outlined in 16 CCR section 1104.3 which include:

- Nature and severity of the violation;
- Length of time that has passed since the date of the violation;
- Consequences of the violation, including the potential to harm, or actual patient harm;
- History of previous violations of similar nature;
- Evidence that the violation was willful;
- Gravity of the violation; and
- The extent to which the cited DHEP has remediated the deficiencies.

Along with categorizing the aforementioned factors, the Taskforce discussed the frequency of violations discovered at DHEPs along with discussions on timeframes and penalties DHEPs shall be given to remediate violations and deficiencies providing structure to a potentially perceived subjective determination.

The next Taskforce meeting is scheduled for November 21, 2025, and continued meetings will occur until a draft rubric is ready for the Education Committee's review.

Education Committee Chair Pacheco reported that for the Dental Hygiene Educational Program Site Visit Update and Schedule, Dr. Petty reported on the current compliance status of Pasadena City College, Taft College, Concorde Career College-San Diego, Cerritos College, Concorde Career College – Garden Grove, Concorde Career College-San Bernardino, and West Coast University, and Diablo Valley College. She also provided an update on the current Dental Hygiene Educational Program Site Visit Schedule.

Lastly, the Committee approved **EDU Committee Agenda Item 6** "Discussion and Possible Action on the July 19, 2025, Education Committee Meeting Minutes," and for **EDU Committee Agenda Item 7** "Future Agenda Items" the following were suggested: host a town hall meeting for program directors and educations to discuss educational standards and to develop a taskforce to discuss educational program requirements.

Board Member discussion: None.

Public comment: Tonette Steeb, Program Director of Diablo Valley College, commented she would like to be considered for a role on the taskforce.

Motion: Vice President Hansen moved for the Full Board to accept the Education Committee’s full report.

Second: Member King.

Board Member discussion: None.

Public comment: None.

Vote: Motion for the Board to for the Full Board to accept the Education Committee’s full report. Passed 7:0:2.

Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain/Absent
Lolly Agarwal			Absent.
Julie Elginer	X		
Sonia “Pat” Hansen	X		
Sherman King	X		
Michael Long	X		
Justin Matthews	X		
Joanne Pacheco	X		
Sridevi Ponnala			Absent.
Nicolas Kiet Quach	X		

12. FULL Board Agenda Item 12: Enforcement Update: Statistical Report. (Informational Only).

EO Lum stated that the information for the Enforcement statistics consisting of complaint cases, investigation cases, citation and fines issued, and current number of probation cases for the quarter can be found on pages 96 to 97. The statistics are current through the month of September 2025.

Board Member comment: Member Elginer asked if the current Board staff vacancies are impacting the Enforcement unit. In response, EO Lum stated that the existing staff in the Enforcement unit are cross training to cover the absence of certain enforcement duties, such as probation monitoring and citation and fine. He stated that the DHBC would arrange with the DBC to utilize their Special Investigators to investigate any egregious cases. EO Lum stated that the Special Investigator position is ready for advertisement and will take time to review individuals who qualify for the role.

Public comment: None.

13. FULL Board Agenda Item 13: Licensing, Continuing Education Audits, and Examination Update: Statistical Report. (Informational Only).

On behalf of Licensing Manager Traci Napper, EO Lum presented the licensing statistics on pages 99 through 109. EO Lum reported on the number of applications and renewals issued for RDHs, RDHAPs, Fictitious Name Permits, and Military Temporary Licenses, as well as the breakdown of total licensee population through September 2025. He reported on the passage rates for the DHBC Law and Ethics exams for RDHs and RDHAPs and provided updates on the current failure and pass rates of the Continuing Education (CE) audits.

Board Member comment: Member Long commented that he found the new CE information posted on the DHBC website to be informative and shared that it is linked on the California Dental Hygienists' Association's website as well. He hopes that this will help hygienists in reviewing and tracking their CE units.

Member Long asked for clarification on what would keep an audit in the pending status. EO Lum stated that is typically when the licensee's address of record is not up to date. EO Lum stated licensees with a pending audit will have a hold placed on their next license renewal until they complete the steps of the audit.

Public comment: Tooka Zokaie, on behalf of the California Dental Association (CDA), stated the DBC received a request at their November 7, 2025, DBC meeting to review the distribution of licenses with new California Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI) data regarding workforce. Ms. Zokaie stated CDA is requesting the Board to consider a review of licensee growth and distribution to better understand the data and how it affects care access among the dental-related licensee populations.

In response to the comment, EO Lum stated Board staff is in agreement with the request by CDA to collect more data. He stated a potential concern that the data could be skewed as the HCAI survey is voluntary and allows for partial completeness.

14. FULL Board Agenda Item 14: Future Agenda Items.

1. Member Elginer recommended adding a teleconference meeting in May 2026 to discuss bills in legislation.
2. Member Elginer recommended the Board consider reviving the Enforcement and Licensing and Education committees if needed.

3. Member Elginer recommended Board's Officers (President, Vice-President, and Secretary) to participate on ad hoc committees and taskforce meetings when possible.
4. Member Matthews recommended the Board members to advocate for an increase in compensation (e.g. higher per diem rate or more per diem days) given the increase in proposed stipulated settlements and disciplinary orders received by the members and the increase in time to review new material.

15. FULL Board Agenda Item 15: Closed Session.

As announced earlier in the meeting, there was no closed session for this meeting.

16. FULL Board Agenda Item 16: Adjournment.

President Pacheco adjourned the Full Board meeting at **3:02 p.m.**

DRAFT



Friday, March 13, 2026

Dental Hygiene Board of California

FULL Board Agenda Item 5.

Future Agenda Items.



Friday, March 13, 2026

Dental Hygiene Board of California

Full Board Agenda Item 6.

Adjournment.