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BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE - BPC

DIVISION 3. PROFESSIONS AND VOCATIONS GENERALLY [5000 - 9998.11] (*Heading of Division 3 added by Stats. 1939, Ch. 30.*)

CHAPTER 7. Professional Engineers [6700 - 6799] (*Chapter 7 repealed and added by Stats. 1951, Ch. 1709.*)

ARTICLE 2. Administration [6710 - 6726.4] (*Article 2 added by Stats. 1951, Ch. 1709.*)

6710. (a) There is in the Department of Consumer Affairs a Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists, which consists of 15 members.

(b) Any reference in any law or regulation to the Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, or the Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, is deemed to refer to the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists.

(c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2029, and as of that date is repealed. Notwithstanding any other law, the repeal of this section renders the board subject to review by the appropriate policy committees of the Legislature.

(Amended by Stats. 2024, Ch. 588, Sec. 2. (AB 3253) Effective January 1, 2025. Repealed as of January 1, 2029, by its own provisions.)

6710.1. Protection of the public shall be the highest priority for the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists in exercising its licensing, regulatory, and disciplinary functions. Whenever the protection of the public is inconsistent with other interests sought to be promoted, the protection of the public shall be paramount.

(Amended by Stats. 2011, Ch. 432, Sec. 2. (SB 944) Effective January 1, 2012.)

6711. Each member of the board shall be a citizen of the United States. Five members shall be registered under this chapter. One member shall be licensed under the Professional Land Surveyors' Act, Chapter 15 (commencing with Section 8700), one member shall be licensed under the Geologist and Geophysicist Act, Chapter 12.5 (commencing with Section 7800), and eight shall be public members who are not registered under this act, licensed under the Geologist and Geophysicist Act, or licensed under the Professional Land Surveyors' Act. Each member, except the public members, shall have at least 12 years active experience and shall be of good standing in their profession. Each member shall have been a resident of this state for at least five years immediately preceding their appointment.

(Amended by Stats. 2024, Ch. 588, Sec. 3. (AB 3253) Effective January 1, 2025.)

6712. (a) All appointments to the board shall be for a term of four years. Vacancies shall be filled by appointment for the unexpired term. Each appointment thereafter shall be for a four-year term expiring on June 30 of the fourth year following the year in which the previous term expired.

(b) Each member shall hold office until the appointment and qualification of his or her successor or until one year shall have elapsed since the expiration of the term for which he or she was appointed, whichever first occurs. No person shall serve as a member of the board for more than two consecutive terms.

(c) The Governor shall appoint professional members so that one is licensed to practice engineering as a civil engineer, one as an electrical engineer, one as a mechanical engineer, another is authorized to use the title of structural engineer, and one is a member of one of the remaining branches of engineering. One of the professional members licensed under this chapter, under Chapter 12.5 (commencing with Section 7800), or under Chapter 15 (commencing with Section 8700) shall be from a local public agency, and one shall be from a state agency.

(d) The Governor shall appoint six of the public members and the professional members qualified as provided in Section 6711. The Senate Committee on Rules and the Speaker of the Assembly shall each appoint a public member.

(Amended by Stats. 2011, Ch. 432, Sec. 4. (SB 944) Effective January 1, 2012.)

6713. Each appointing authority shall have the power to remove from office at any time any member of the board appointed by that authority pursuant to Section 106.

(Amended by Stats. 2024, Ch. 588, Sec. 4. (AB 3253) Effective January 1, 2025.)

6714. The board shall appoint an executive officer at a salary to be fixed and determined by the board with the approval of the Director of Finance.

This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2029, and as of that date is repealed.

(Amended by Stats. 2024, Ch. 588, Sec. 5. (AB 3253) Effective January 1, 2025. Repealed as of January 1, 2029, by its own provisions.)

6715. The board shall compile and maintain, or may have compiled and maintained on its behalf, a register of all licensees that contains information showing the name, address of record, type of branch license, license number, the date the license was issued, and the date the license will expire.

(Amended by Stats. 2005, Ch. 657, Sec. 3. Effective January 1, 2006.)

6716. (a) The board may adopt rules and regulations consistent with law and necessary to govern its action. These rules and regulations shall be adopted in accordance with the 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).

(b) The board may adopt rules and regulations of professional conduct that are not inconsistent with state and federal law. The rules and regulations may include definitions of incompetence and negligence. Every person who holds a license or certificate issued by the board pursuant to this chapter shall be governed by these rules and regulations.

(c) The board shall hold at least two regular meetings each year. Special meetings shall be held at those times that the board's rules provide. A majority of the board constitutes a quorum.

(Amended by Stats. 2006, Ch. 658, Sec. 93. Effective January 1, 2007.)

6717. The board may, by regulation, define the scope of each branch of professional engineering other than civil, electrical, and mechanical engineering for which registration is provided under this chapter.

(Amended by Stats. 2000, Ch. 1006, Sec. 6. Effective January 1, 2001.)

6718. Any member of the board may administer oaths and may take testimony and proofs concerning all matters within the board's jurisdiction.

(Repealed and added by Stats. 1951, Ch. 1709.)

6719. The board shall adopt and have an official seal which shall be affixed to all certificates of registration.

(Repealed and added by Stats. 1951, Ch. 1709.)

6720. Each member of the board shall receive a per diem and expenses as provided in Section 103.

(Repealed and added by Stats. 1959, Ch. 1645.)

6721. The board shall establish relations with bodies that regulate the practice of professional engineering, or closely related professions, or that register or license professional engineers in other states, and may establish relations with those bodies in other countries, for the purposes of working toward uniformly high professional standards and mutual recognition of registration and licensure.

(Added by Stats. 2011, Ch. 432, Sec. 5. (SB 944) Effective January 1, 2012.)

6726. The board may establish one or more technical advisory committees to advise and assist the board with respect to the following:

- (1) Application review and verification for any level of registration, licensure, authority, or title.
- (2) Evaluation and investigation of potential violations of the act.
- (3) Amendment, repeal, adoption, or revision of board rules, regulations, policies, and procedures.

(Amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1134, Sec. 1.2.)

6726.1. Each member of each technical advisory committee shall be appointed by the board and shall serve at the pleasure of the board. Each committee shall be composed of no more than five members.

(Amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1134, Sec. 1.3.)

6726.2. Each member of each technical advisory committee shall be an expert in the branch of engineering within the committee's jurisdiction and shall be licensed under this chapter.

(Amended by Stats. 2006, Ch. 658, Sec. 94. Effective January 1, 2007.)

6726.3. All the members of each technical advisory committee shall serve without compensation but shall receive per diem and expenses as provided in Section 103.

(Amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1134, Sec. 1.5.)

6726.4. Each member of each technical advisory committee shall be granted the same immunity as is granted to a public employee pursuant to Article 3 (commencing with Section 820) of Chapter 1 of Part 2 of Division 3.6 of Title 1 of the Government Code.

(Amended by Stats. 1985, Ch. 1134, Sec. 1.6.)