

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

**TITLE 16. PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL REGULATIONS
DIVISION 2.**

CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD

NOTICE OF PROPOSED REGULATORY ACTION CONCERNING:
License Certification Fee

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the California Architects Board (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 his or her 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 e-mail to the addresses listed under "Contact Person" in this Notice, must be **received by the Board at its office no later than by Monday, June 16, 2025**, or must be received by the Board at the hearing, should one be scheduled.

AUTHORITY AND REFERENCE

Pursuant to the authority vested by section 5526 of the Business and Professions Code (BPC), and to implement, interpret, or make specific BPC section 5604, the Board is considering amending section 144 of title 16 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR).

INFORMATIVE DIGEST / POLICY STATEMENT OVERVIEW

When licensees seek licensure in jurisdictions outside of California, they are frequently required to have the Board complete and submit a certification of licensure. This certification of licensure contains history of examination, licensure, enforcement actions, if any, and in some cases a complete history of license renewal. The Board must complete one certification for each jurisdiction where the California licensee is seeking a new license.

Currently, the Board does not charge for this service, regardless of the staff time it

takes to complete and submit each certification. As a special funded entity, the Board may charge a fee to recoup the staff time and resources used when providing a service. The Board worked with the Department of Consumer Affairs Budget Office and conducted a fee study to determine an appropriate fee for completion and submittal of a license certification. The Board received authority to charge for a license certification when Senate Bill 1452 (“SB 1452” – Chapter 486 of the Statutes of 2024) was enacted that modified BPC 5604 and authorized the Board to charge a fee for license certifications.

This proposal will establish a fee of \$40 that the Board will charge to recoup its cost of completing and submitting a license certification.

This regulatory proposal will amend 16 CCR section 144. The amendment to the regulation through this proposed rulemaking is as follows:

Add 16 CCR 144(i) to specify the fee of \$40 for the Board to complete and submit a license certification.

Anticipated Benefits of Proposal

This proposal will establish a fee for the Board to charge for completion and submittal of a license certification. This allows the Board to recoup its expenses and align with the State Administrative Manual, which will assist the Board’s continuance in regulating the profession of architecture, which benefits the health and welfare of California residents.

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 these regulations are 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: The proposed regulation is anticipated to increase the Board’s revenues by approximately \$14,640 per year and up to \$146,400 over a ten-year period. The proposal will establish a fee of \$40 per individual, and the Board estimates approximately 366 individuals will seek license certification per year. Since the Board already performs the workload associated with these services, the Board does not anticipate any additional workload or costs to implement the proposed regulations.

The proposed 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 regulations will not have a significant statewide adverse economic impact on businesses, including the ability to compete with other businesses in California. This initial determination is based on the following facts:

The proposal will establish a license certification fee of \$40, which is considered to be minor compared to the income of most licensees in the profession. The fee is charged per certification completed, which only would occur when a licensee is seeking licensure outside of California. The fee is collected from individual licensees according to current law.

The rulemaking file includes the facts, evidence, documents, testimony, and/or other evidence that supports this determination. The Board has not considered proposed alternatives that would lessen any adverse economic impact on business and invites individuals to submit such proposals.

Cost Impact on Representative Private Person or Business

The regulation would impose a fee of \$40 per license certification that a licensee requests to be completed and submitted to another entity. To the extent licensees seek licensure outside of California, the proposed regulations will impact them. The Board estimates approximately 366 individuals will seek license certification per year, resulting in annual costs of \$14,640 and up to \$146,400 over a ten-year period.

RESULTS OF ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT / ANALYSIS:

Impact on Jobs / Businesses

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

- 1) Creation or elimination of jobs within California,
- 2) Creation of new businesses or elimination of existing businesses within California, or

3) Expansion of businesses currently doing business within the state.

This proposal would not have any of the above-referenced impacts because these costs are considered minor compared to the income of most licensees in this profession as more fully discussed in the “Business Impact Estimates” section of this notice.

Benefits of Regulation

The Board has determined that the regulatory proposal will allow the Board to recoup its expenses and align with the State Administrative Manual, which will assist the Board’s continuance in regulating the profession of architecture, which benefits the health and welfare of California residents.

This regulatory proposal does not affect worker safety because it does not involve worker safety.

This regulatory proposal does not affect the state’s environment because it does not involve the environment.

Business Reporting Requirements

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

Effect on Small Business

While the Board does not have nor does it maintain data to define if any of its licensees are a “small business” as defined in Government Code section 11342.610, the Board has made an initial determination that any adverse economic impact will not be significant for small businesses, because the increased expense to any business, small or otherwise, is \$40 per requested license certification, as specified.

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 at the Board’s office at 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105, Sacramento, California 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 (ISOR), 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 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105, Sacramento, California 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 PERSONS

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

Name:	Timothy Rodda
Address:	2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834
Telephone No.:	279.895.1246
E-Mail Address:	timothy.rodde@dca.ca.gov

The backup contact person is:

Name: Laura Zuniga
Address: 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105
Sacramento, CA 95834
Telephone No.: 916.471.0760
E-Mail Address: laura.zuniga@dca.ca.gov

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS ON THE INTERNET:

Materials regarding this proposal can be found at
https://www.cab.ca.gov/resrcs/laws_regs/prop_reg.shtml

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.cab.ca.gov/resrcs/laws_regs/prop_reg.shtml.