

# SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY & AUDIOLOGY & HEARING AID DISPENSERS BOARD 1601 Response Road, Suite 260, Sacramento, CA 95815



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# **MEMORANDUM**

| DATE    | February 20, 2023  |
|---------|--|
| ТО      | Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensers Board |
| FROM    | Paul Sanchez, Executive Officer  |
| SUBJECT | Agenda Item 7: Executive Officer Report                                  |

This report and the statistical information provided by staff is to update you on the current operations of the Board.

### a) Administration Update

Board management recently hired an Enforcement Analyst to backfill the position created by the Business Modernization project workload. This position will help the Board address the investigative caseload in enforcement and handle intake and workload distribution.

# b) Outreach Update

On February 16, 2023, Paul Sanchez provided a presentation to the San Francisco State Student Audiology Association on the importance of licensing. The presentation included an overview of the Board and Cherise Burns provided a demonstration of the Board's Apply Simply! online licensing system. Dr. Marcia Raggio was also in attendance.

# c) Budget Report

Included in your Board materials is a current Fund Condition Report that reflects the 2023-2024 Governor's Budget. This report is a snapshot of the Board's fund condition and will continue to be adjusted to reflect this year's complete revenue and expenditures.

At this time, the Board does not have an Expenditure Projection Report to review. When data becomes more detailed for better projections, we will provide a complete report. Board staff will continue working with DCA Budgets to track this information for planning and budgeting purposes.

#### d) Regulations Report

Below is a table with the Board's pending rulemaking files that are either going through the DCA Initial Review Process or already in the Official Rulemaking Process with the Office of Administrative Law. A separate detailed report (Agenda Item 12) is provided in your materials and will be discussed during the full Board meeting.

| Rulemaking File  | Final<br>OAL<br>Filing<br>Date | Comments  |  |
|--|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Required Professional Experience Direct Supervision Requirements and Tele- Supervision | 8/4/2023                       | 12/29/2022 – Submitted to OAL 12/19/2022 – Submitted for Agency review 12/14/2022 – Submitted for DCA review 11/7/2022 – 15-day comment period 10/28/2022 – Board approved modified text 8/5/2022 – Initial 45-day comment period 6/13/2022 – Submitted for Agency review 4/5/2022 – Submitted for DCA review 5/17/2021 – Submitted for Legal review 5/14/2021 – Board approved language  | OAL review period<br>ends February 13,<br>2023 |
| Notice to<br>Consumers   | 9/8/2023                       | 2/6/2023 – Approved by OAL 12/23/2022 – Submitted to OAL 12/19/2022 – Submitted for Agency review 12/12/2022 – Submitted for DCA review 12/9/2022 – Submitted for Legal review 11/29/2022 – 15-day comment period 10/28/2022 – Board approved modified text 9/9/2022 – Initial 45-day comment period 8/15/2022 – Submitted for Agency review 8/9/2022 – Submitted for DCA review 3/24/2022 – Submitted for Legal review 2/25/2022 – Board approved language | Effective April 1, 2023                        |

| Rulemaking File   | Final<br>OAL<br>Filing | Status  | Comments  |
|---|------------------------|---|---|
|   | Date                   |   |   |
| Uniform Standards Related to Substance- Abusing Licensees                       | 9/29/2023              | 12/29/2022 – Submitted to OAL 12/19/2022 – Submitted for Agency review 12/12/2022 – Submitted for DCA review 12/9/2022 – Submitted for Legal review 9/30/2022 – Initial 45-day comment period 9/12/2022 – Submitted for Agency review 8/22/2022 – Submitted for DCA review 3/24/2022 – Submitted for Legal review 8/13/2021 – Board approved language | OAL review period<br>ends February 13,<br>2023  |
| Fingerprinting<br>Requirements  |                        | 8/31/2022 – Submitted for Legal review 5/13/2022 – Board approved language  | Board staff working with the DCA Budgets Office to develop the Economic and Fiscal Impact Statement |
| SLPA Academic<br>and Program<br>Requirements                                    |                        | 11/11/2022 – Initial 45-day comment period 11/1/2022 – Submitted for Agency review 10/18/2022 – Submitted for DCA review 8/19/2022 – Submitted for Legal review 8/12/2022 – Board approved language   | Public comment<br>period closed<br>12/27/2022   |
| SLPA<br>Supervision<br>Requirements   |                        | 11/11/2022 – Initial 45-day comment period 11/3/2022 – Submitted for Agency review 10/28/2022 – Submitted for DCA review 8/18/2022 – Submitted for Legal review 5/13/2022 – Board approved language   | Public comment<br>period closed<br>12/27/2022   |
| Examination Requirements for Hearing Aid Dispensers and Dispensing Audiologists |                        | 5/13/2022 – Board approved language   | Board staff drafting regulatory documents   |
| SLP-AU CPD<br>Requirements  |                        | 1/31/2023 – Submitted for Legal review 8/12/2022 – Board approved language  | Board staff drafting regulatory documents   |
| HAD CE<br>Requirements  |                        | 8/12/2022 – Board approved language   | Board staff drafting regulatory documents   |

#### e) Licensing Report

The new online application system has been launched and all application types are now available through the online system. There are still troubleshooting issues to work through and the development of additional application status lookup features. This system development had been a huge undertaking for Board staff. Some of our staff had to stay on task with project assignments while trying to complete their everyday duties. Most of the work associated with this project has been extra workload absorbed by Board staff and may be reflected in work processing cycle times in the Licensing and Enforcement Units.

<u>Licensing Cycle Times</u> – The chart below provides a snapshot of Board's current and past licensing processing times. We have seen a significant increase in licensing cycle times since during the past four months. Licensing staff are processing backlogged paper applications received prior to certain application types being launched online while completing other project implementation tasks for the new online application system.

| Licensing Cycle Times   | 2/1/22  | 5/1/22  | 8/1/22  | 11/1/22 | Current  |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| Speech-Language Pathologists (SLP) and Audiologists (AUD) Complete Licensing Applications | 4 weeks | 4 weeks | 6 weeks | 8 weeks | 12 weeks |
| Review and Process SLP and AUD Supporting Licensing Documents                             | 3 weeks | 3 weeks | 4 weeks | 7 weeks | 9 weeks  |
| Review and Process RPE Applicant's<br>Verification Forms for<br>Full Licensure            | 4 weeks | 3 weeks | 5 weeks | 3 weeks | 7 weeks  |
| Hearing Aid Dispensers (HAD) Applications   | Current | 3 weeks | 4 weeks | 5 weeks | 9 weeks  |

#### f) Practical Examination Report

Practical examinations were conducted on November 18-19, 2022 and January 27-28, 2023. Below is a summary of results from the November that exam. A summary of results for the January meeting will be provided at the Board's April meeting.

| HAD Practical Examination Results for November 18-19, 2022 |                      |           |        |        |      |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|----------------------|-----------|--------|--------|------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Candidate Type   | Number of Candidates | Passed    | %      | Failed | %    |  |  |  |  |  |
| Applicants with Supervision (Temporary Trainee License)    |                      |           |        |        |      |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hearing Aid Dispensers 19 12 63% 7                         |                      |           |        |        |      |  |  |  |  |  |
| Audiologists   |                      |           |        |        |      |  |  |  |  |  |
| Required Professional Experience                           | 3                    | 2         | 67%    | 1      | 33%  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Aide   |                      |           |        |        |      |  |  |  |  |  |
| Applicants Licensed in                                     | Another State (      | Temporary | Licens | e)     |      |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hearing Aid Dispenser                                      | 3                    | 2         | 67%    | 1      | 33%  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Audiologist  | 1                    | 0         | 0%     | 1      | 100% |  |  |  |  |  |
| Applicant  | s without Super      | vision    |        |        |      |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hearing Aid Dispensers                                     | 14                   | 11        | 79%    | 3      | 21%  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Audiologists   | 6                    | 4         | 67%    | 2      | 33%  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Required Professional Experience                           |                      |           |        |        |      |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |                      |           |        |        |      |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Number of Candidates                                 | 47                   | 31        | 66%    | 16     | 34%  |  |  |  |  |  |

## g) Enforcement Report

The Board received 63 complaints and subsequent arrest notifications through the second quarter of the 2022-23 reporting year. During this same period the Board issued four (4) citation and fines and one (1) cease and desist letter.

There are currently three (3) formal discipline cases pending with the Attorney General's Office. The Board is currently monitoring 19 probationers of which six (6) probationers require drug or alcohol testing and three (3) are in a tolled status. Included in your Board materials (Item 7g) is the Board's statistical Enforcement Report.

The following disciplinary actions have been adopted by the Board during the past 12 months:

| Name                                   | License<br>No. | License<br>Type                               | Case No.        | Effective<br>Date    | Action Taken   |
|--|----------------|---|-----------------|----------------------|--|
| Green (Malek),<br>Natalia<br>Chojnacka | SP<br>22694    | Speech-<br>Language<br>Pathologist            | 1I-2019-<br>175 | November<br>18, 2022 | Revocation Stayed,<br>Three Years' Probation<br>with Specified Terms<br>and Conditions |
| Banaga, Ramon<br>Rocello               | SPA<br>3446    | Speech-<br>Language<br>Pathology<br>Assistant | 1I-2017-<br>073 | August 19,<br>2022   | Revocation Stayed,<br>Seven Years' Probation<br>with Specified Terms<br>and Conditions |

| Name                           | License<br>No. | License<br>Type                               | Case No.        | Effective<br>Date | Action Taken   |
|--------------------------------|----------------|---|-----------------|-------------------|--|
| Swanson, Robin                 | HA<br>3104     | Hearing<br>Aid<br>Dispenser                   | D1-2012-<br>98  | July 28,<br>2022  | Revocation of License  |
| Arreola, Diana                 | SPA<br>5384    | Speech-<br>Language<br>Pathology<br>Assistant | 1I-2019-<br>177 | June 2, 2022      | Voluntary Surrender of License   |
| Brasier, Carley<br>Amara Green | SP<br>20434    | Speech-<br>Language<br>Pathologist            | 1I-2018-<br>222 | May 28,<br>2022   | Revocation Stayed,<br>Five Years' Probation<br>with Specified Terms<br>and Conditions  |
| Lilly, Alice<br>Penelope       | HA<br>8322     | Hearing<br>Aid<br>Dispenser                   | 1C-2018-<br>168 | May 6, 2022       | Revocation Stayed,<br>Three Years' Probation<br>with Specified Terms<br>and Conditions |
| Colbert, Michael               | HA<br>5026     | Hearing<br>Aid<br>Dispenser                   | 1C-2018-<br>081 | May 1, 2022       | Voluntary Surrender of License   |

0376 - Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensers Fund Analysis of Fund Condition (Dollars in Thousands)

2023-24 Governor's Budget FM6

| 2023-24 Governor's Budget FM6   |    | Actual<br>021-22 | CY<br>2022-23 |       | BY<br>2023-24 |       | BY +1<br>2024-25 |       | BY +2<br>2025-26 |       |
|---|----|------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|------------------|-------|------------------|-------|
| BEGINNING BALANCE   | \$ | 1,545            | \$            | 1,134 | \$            | 1,395 | \$               | 1,427 | \$               | 1,367 |
| Prior Year Adjustment   | \$ | -105             | \$            | 0     | \$            | 0     | \$               | 0     | \$               | 0     |
| Adjusted Beginning Balance  | \$ | 1,440            | \$            | 1,134 | \$            | 1,395 | \$               | 1,427 | \$               | 1,367 |
| REVENUES, TRANSFERS AND OTHER ADJUSTMENTS   |    |                  |               |       |               |       |                  |       |                  |       |
| Revenues  |    |                  |               |       |               |       |                  |       |                  |       |
| 4121200 - Delinquent fees   | \$ | 31               | \$            | 31    | \$            | 32    | \$               | 32    | \$               | 32    |
| 4127400 - Renewal fees  | \$ | 2,001            | \$            | 2,441 | \$            | 2,397 | \$               | 2,397 | \$               | 2,397 |
| 4129200 - Other regulatory fees   | \$ | 73               | \$            | 65    | \$            | 55    | \$               | 55    | \$               | 55    |
| 4129400 - Other regulatory licenses and permits   | \$ | 480              | \$            | 565   | \$            | 562   | \$               | 562   | \$               | 562   |
| 4163000 - Income from surplus money investments   | \$ | 6                | \$            | 9     | \$            | 30    | \$               | 20    | \$               | 19    |
| 4171400 - Escheat of unclaimed checks and warrants  | \$ | 3                | \$            | 3     | \$            | 0     | \$               | 0     | \$               | 0     |
| 4172500 - Miscellaneous revenues  | \$ | 0                | \$            | 1     | \$            | 1     | \$               | 1     | \$               | 1     |
| Totals, Revenues  | \$ | 2,594            | \$            | 3,115 | \$            | 3,077 | \$               | 3,067 | \$               | 3,066 |
| Operating Transfers To General Fund 0001 per EO E 21/22-276 Revised (AB 84)                     | \$ | -82              | \$            | 0     | \$            | 0     | \$               | 0     | \$               | 0     |
| Totals, Transfers and Other Adjustments   | \$ | -82              | \$            | 0     | \$            | 0     | \$               | 0     | \$               | 0     |
| TOTALS, REVENUES, TRANSFERS AND OTHER ADJUSTMENTS   | \$ | 2,512            | \$            | 3,115 | \$            | 3,077 | \$               | 3,067 | \$               | 3,066 |
| TOTAL RESOURCES   | \$ | 3,952            | \$            | 4,249 | \$            | 4,472 | \$               | 4,494 | \$               | 4,433 |
| Expenditures:   |    |                  |               |       |               |       |                  |       |                  |       |
| 1111 Department of Consumer Affairs Regulatory Boards,<br>Bureaus, Divisions (State Operations) | \$ | 2,622            | \$            | 2,672 | \$            | 2,739 | \$               | 2,821 | \$               | 2,906 |
| 9892 Supplemental Pension Payments (State Operations)   | \$ | 38               | \$            | 38    | \$            | 38    | \$               | 38    | \$               | 0     |
| 9900 Statewide General Administrative Expenditures (Pro Rata) (State Operations)                | \$ | 158              | \$            | 144   | \$            | 268   | \$               | 268   | \$               | 268   |
| TOTALS, EXPENDITURES AND EXPENDITURE ADJUSTMENTS  | \$ | 2,818            | \$            | 2,854 | \$            | 3,045 | \$               | 3,127 | \$               | 3,174 |
| FUND BALANCE Reserve for economic uncertainties   | \$ | 1,134            | \$            | 1,395 | \$            | 1,427 | \$               | 1,367 | \$               | 1,259 |
| Months in Reserve   |    | 4.8              |               | 5.5   |               | 5.5   |                  | 5.2   |                  | 4.8   |

#### NOTES:

Assumes workload and revenue projections are realized in BY +1 and ongoing. Expenditure growth projected at 3% beginning BY +1.