

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

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2  
3 Open sessions of this Board Meeting were webcasted. Records of the webcasts are  
4 available on the following links:

5 May 4: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g\\_ig1fG0qsY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g_ig1fG0qsY)  
6 May 5 (Part 1 of 2): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZS6QdRUUnZkU>  
7 May 5 (Part 2 of 2): [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kMNn\\_myCaUA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kMNn_myCaUA)  
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11 **DATE** May 4, 2023

12

13 **LOCATION** Embassy Suites by Hilton Anaheim Orange

14 400 N. State College Blvd.

15 Orange, CA 92868

16

17 **TIME** 9:00 a.m.

18

19 **ATTENDEES**

20 **Members Present:** Max Disposti, Chair, Public Member

21 Christopher Jones, Vice Chair, LEP Member

22 Ross Erlich, Public Member

23 Susan Friedman, Public Member

24 Justin Huft, LMFT Member

25 Abigail Ortega, LCSW Member

26 Kelly Ranasinghe, Public Member

27 John Sovec, LMFT Member

28 Wendy Strack, Public Member

29 Eleanor Uribe, LCSW Member

30 Dr. Annette Walker, Public Member

31 Yvette Casares Willis, Public Member

32

33 **Members Absent:** Justin Huft, LMFT Member (*absent at 11:30 a.m.*)

34

35 **Staff Present:** Steve Sodergren, Executive Officer

36 Marlon McManus, Assistant Executive Officer

37 Sabina Knight, Legal Counsel

38 Christina Kitamura, Administrative Analyst

39

1 **Other Attendees:** Abraham Levy, Administrative Law Judge  
2 Alvaro Mejia, Deputy Attorney General  
3 Leah French, Petitioner  
4 Leah Edwards-Conrad, Petitioner  
5 Jaron Haynes, Petitioner  
6 Kellianne Martinez, Petitioner  
7 Public participation (in-person only)  
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9 **OPEN SESSION**

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11  
12 **1. Call to Order and Establishment of Quorum**

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14 Max Disposti, Chair of the Board of Behavioral Sciences (Board), called the  
15 meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. Roll was called, and a quorum was established.  
16

17 **2. Suggestions for Future Agenda Items**

18  
19 Walker: Requested training for future officers before annual elections for  
20 Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.  
21

22 **3. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda**

23  
24 Friedman: Requests future meetings in other locations, not southern California.  
25

26 ***Administrative Law Judge Abraham Levy presided over the following petition***  
27 ***hearings. Deputy Attorney General Alvaro Mejia presented the facts of each case***  
28 ***on behalf of the People of the State of California.***  
29

30 ***Some petitions were heard out of agenda order.***  
31

32 **4. Leah Lynne French (aka Miner), LMFT 96856, Petition for Early Termination**  
33 **of Probation**

34  
35 The record was opened at 9:20 a.m. Leah Lynne French (Miner) was  
36 represented by Kenneth Drake. Deputy Attorney General Alvaro Mejia presented  
37 the background of this case. French was sworn-in, and Drake gave an opening  
38 statement. French presented her request, was first questioned by Board  
39 members. She was examined by Drake and cross-examined by Mejia. provided  
40 closing remarks. The record was closed at 10:22 a.m.  
41

42 **5. Leah Sue Edwards-Conrad, LMFT 128019, Petition for Early Termination of**  
43 **Probation**

44  
45 The record was opened at 12:39 p.m. Leah Sue Edwards-Conrad represented  
46 herself. Deputy Attorney General Kevin Bell presented the background of this

1 case. Edwards-Conrad was sworn-in and presented her request for early  
2 termination of probation and information to support the request. She was cross-  
3 examined by Bell and Board. Heather Walker Janz, LMFT, testified as Mejia  
4 provided closing remarks. The record was closed at 1:22 p.m.  
5

6 **6. Jaron Daniel Haynes, LMFT 88574, Petition for Early Termination of**  
7 **Probation or Modification**  
8

9 The record was opened at 10:51 a.m. Jaron Daniel Haynes represented himself.  
10 Deputy Attorney General Mejia presented the background of this case. Haynes  
11 was sworn-in and presented his request for early termination of probation and  
12 information to support the request. Haynes was cross-examined by Mejia and  
13 Board members. The record was closed at 11:29 a.m.  
14

15 **7. Kellianne Janae Martinez, LMFT 105824, Petition for Early Termination of**  
16 **Probation**  
17

18 The record was opened at 1:25 p.m. Kellianne Janae Martinez represented  
19 herself. Deputy Attorney General Mejia presented the background of this case.  
20 Martinez was sworn-in and presented her request for early termination of  
21 probation and information to support the request. She was cross-examined by  
22 Mejia and Board members. Mejia gave a closing statement. The record was  
23 closed at 2:24 p.m.  
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25  
26 **CLOSED SESSION**  
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28  
29 *The Board entered closed session at 2:27 p.m.*  
30

31 **8. Pursuant to Section 11126(c)(3) of the Government Code, the Board will**  
32 **Meet in Closed Session for Discussion and to Take Action on Disciplinary**  
33 **Matters, Including the Above Petitions.**  
34

35 **9. Recess Until 8:30 a.m., Friday, May 5, 2023**  
36

37 The Board recessed at 4:00 p.m.  
38

1     **DATE**                             May 5, 2023  
2  
3     **LOCATION**                         Embassy Suites by Hilton Anaheim Orange  
4   400 N. State College Blvd.  
5   Orange, CA 92868  
6  
7     **TIME**                             8:30 a.m.  
8  
9     **ATTENDEES**  
10    **Members Present:**             Max Disposti, Chair, Public Member  
11   Christopher Jones, Vice Chair, LEP Member  
12   Ross Erlich, Public Member  
13   Susan Friedman, Public Member  
14   Justin Huft, LMFT Member  
15   Abigail Ortega, LCSW Member  
16   Kelly Ranasinghe, Public Member  
17   John Sovec, LMFT Member  
18   Wendy Strack, Public Member  
19   Eleanor Uribe, LCSW Member  
20   Dr. Annette Walker, Public Member  
21   Yvette Casares Willis, Public Member  
22  
23    **Members Absent:**             *All members present*  
24  
25    **Staff Present:**                 Steve Sodergren, Executive Officer  
26   Marlon McManus, Assistant Executive Officer  
27   Rosanne Helms, Legislative Manager  
28   Sabina Knight, Legal Counsel  
29   Christina Kitamura, Administrative Analyst  
30  
31    **Other Attendees:**             Melissa Gear, Department of Consumer Affairs  
32   Public participation (in-person only)  
33

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## OPEN SESSION

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### 10. Call to Order and Establishment of Quorum

Max Disposti, Chair of the Board of Behavioral Sciences (Board), called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m. Roll was called, and a quorum was established.

### 11. Introductions

Board members, staff and attendees introduced themselves.

### 12. Consent Calendar: Possible Approval of the February 2-3, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes

Motion: Approve the February 2-3, 2023 Board meeting minutes.

M/S: Ranasinghe/Strack

Public Comment: None

Vote: Yea 10; Nay 0; Abstain 2. Motion carried.

Member	Vote
Max Disposti	Y
Ross Erlich	Y
Susan Friedman	Y
Justin Huft	Y
Christopher Jones	Y
Abigail Ortega	Y
Kelly Ranasinghe	Y
John Sovec	Y
Wendy Strack	Y
Eleanor Uribe	abstain
Dr. Annette Walker	Y
Yvette Casares Willis	abstain

### 13. Board Chair Report

#### a. Board Member Attendance

Board member attendance report for fiscal year 2022-2023 was presented.

1           **b. Future Board Meetings**

2           2023 Board and Committee meeting dates were provided.

3  
4           **c. Staff Recognitions**

5           The following staff were recognized for their service:

- 6           • Lea Lyles: 5 years of state service  
7           • Racquel Pena: 15 years of state service  
8           • Cynthi Burnett: 25 years of state service

9  
10          **14. Department of Consumer Affairs Update**

11  
12          Melissa Gear, Deputy Director of Board and Bureau Relations, Department of  
13          Consumer Affairs (DCA/department) presented the following updates:

- 14  
15          • Senate confirmed members Friedman, Sovec, Uribe  
16          • DCA’s first Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Steering Committee to guide the  
17          department in its equity strategy initiatives and action plans  
18          • Board Member mandatory trainings  
19          • Travel Expense Claims  
20          • Virtual meetings and the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, SB 544  
21          • Federal Portability Act allows for eligible military service members and their  
22          spouses who hold a professional license in another state to practice in  
23          California, effective January 2023  
24          • 2021-22 Annual Report is on the DCA website.

25  
26          **15. Election of Board Chairperson and Vice Chairperson**

27  
28          **Nominations for Chairperson**

29  
30          Motion: Nominate Christopher Jones as Chairperson.

31  
32          M/S: Disposti/Huft

33  
34          Nomination accepted.

35  
36          Public Comment: None

37  
38          Vote: Yea 12; Nay 0; Abstain 0. Motion carried.  
39

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Member	Vote
Max Disposti	Y
Ross Erlich	Y
Susan Friedman	Y
Justin Huft	Y
Christopher Jones	Y
Abigail Ortega	Y
Kelly Ranasinghe	Y
John Sovec	Y
Wendy Strack	Y
Eleanor Uribe	Y
Dr. Annette Walker	Y
Yvette Casares Willis	Y

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**Nominations for Vice Chairperson**

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Motion: Nominate Wendy Strack as Vice Chairperson.

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M/S: Disposti/Huft

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Nomination accepted.

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12

Sovec nominated Dr. Annette Walker as Vice Chairperson. Walker declined the nomination.

13

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Public Comment: None

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17

Vote: Yea 12; Nay 0; Abstain 0. Motion carried.

18

Member	Vote
Max Disposti	Y
Ross Erlich	Y
Susan Friedman	Y
Justin Huft	Y
Christopher Jones	Y
Abigail Ortega	Y
Kelly Ranasinghe	Y
John Sovec	Y
Wendy Strack	Y
Eleanor Uribe	Y
Dr. Annette Walker	Y
Yvette Casares Willis	Y

19

1 **16. Executive Officer Report**

2 **a. Budget Report**

- 3
- 4 • The Board’s budget for fiscal year (FY) 2022-23 is \$13,593,000.
  - 5 • Expenditures to date are \$8,670,978.
  - 6 • Fund Condition reflects a reserve of 14.2 months.

7 **b. Personnel**

8 The Board’s staffing activity is as follows:

- 9
- 10 • 4 new hires
  - 11 • 1 departure
  - 12 • 6 vacancies

13 **c. Licensing Report**

14 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Statistics:

- 15
- 16 • 4,088 licenses/registrations issued
  - 17 • Population of approximately 135,648 licensees/associates
  - 18 • 1.5% gain in license/registration population since 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter

19 **d. Exam Report**

20 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Statistics:

- 21
- 22 • 4,448 exams were administered.
  - 23 • 11 exam development workshops were conducted.

24 Steve Sodergren provided the following updates:

- 25
- 26 • Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB)
  - 27 • National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC)
  - 28 • Association of Marriage and Family Therapy Regulatory Boards (AMFTRB) clinical exam
  - 29 • Pearson Vue
  - 30 • Law and Ethics exam
  - 31 • Exam courtesy notifications

32

33 **e. Enforcement Report**

34 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Statistics:

- 35
- 36 • 467 consumer complaints received
  - 37 • 294 criminal convictions
  - 38 • 588 cases closed
  - 39 • 39 cases referred to Attorney General’s (AG) Office
  - 40 • 93 cases pending at AG’s Office
  - Average time to complete formal discipline: 413 days



- Average time a case is at the AG’s Office: 262 days
- Average time to complete board investigations: 49 days

**f. Education and Outreach Report**

3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Statistics:

- Facebook followers increased to 26,308.
- Facebook page reach increased by 3.6%.
- Instagram page reach increased by 11.7%.
- Responded to BBS email accounts: 22,315

Steve Sodergren reported on telehealth best practices documents and fiscal year (FY) 22/23 outreach events.

**g. Organizational Development Report**

The following progress updates were provided:

- BreEZe system updates
- Process Improvement Project
- Digitizing BBS records
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

**h. Strategic Plan Update**

Progress updates on Strategic Plan goals were provided.

Public Comment

Dr. Ben Caldwell: Referred to item 16d and the quarterly change in first time examinee pass rate for MFT law and ethics exam. Noted the 16-point drop for that population and the 17-point gain for counselors taking the NCMHCE exam. Stated that if the knowledge threshold for passing were consistent over time, changes would not be so dramatic over time.

Dr. Leah Brew: As of January 1<sup>st</sup>, NCMHCE changed its structure to a true multiple-choice format. The previous structure was extremely difficult prior to the change. The change may have had an effect on the scores.

Rebecca Gonzales, National Association of Social Workers - California Division (NASW-CA): NASW-CA is still very concerned about the ASWB exam, and its members want to see it go away.

1 **17. Discussion and Possible Recommendation Regarding Amendments to the**  
2 **Board’s Temporary Practice Allowance Bill Proposal (AB 232, Aguiar-**  
3 **Curry): Add Business and Professions Code (BPC) §§4980.11, 4996.16.1,**  
4 **4999.23, Amend BPC §§4980, 4980.30, 4991.2, and add Article 1 Under**  
5 **Chapter 14**  
6

7 At its November 2022 meeting, the Board approved statutory language and  
8 directed staff to pursue legislation to allow a 30-day temporary practice  
9 allowance to qualifying therapists licensed in another state whose client is visiting  
10 California or is in the process of moving to California.  
11

12 The Legislative Counsel recommended some additional changes to the proposed  
13 language. The recommended changes were presented.  
14

15 CAMFT requests additional clarification in 4980(d)(2), by adding a subparagraph  
16 to clarify that the use of certain letters associated with LMFT licensure cannot be  
17 used by a licensed clinical social worker or a licensed psychologist.  
18

19 Motion: Direct staff to make any discussed changes and any non-substantive  
20 changes to the language and amend it into AB 232.  
21

22 M/S: Strack/Sovec  
23

24 Public Comment

25 Kristen Roscoe, California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists  
26 (CAMFT): Expressed appreciation.  
27

28 Vote: Yea 12; Nay 0; Abstain 0. Motion carried.  
29

Member	Vote
Max Disposti	Y
Ross Erlich	Y
Susan Friedman	Y
Justin Huft	Y
Christopher Jones	Y
Abigail Ortega	Y
Kelly Ranasinghe	Y
John Sovec	Y
Wendy Strack	Y
Eleanor Uribe	Y
Dr. Annette Walker	Y
Yvette Casares Willis	Y

1 **18. Telehealth Committee Update**

2  
3 At its March 2023 meeting, the Telehealth Committee discussed the following:

- 4 • Survey draft to gather information about licensee and registrant experiences  
5 working for online-only therapy platform.  
6 • Revisions to the Board’s statutes that require physical display of a license or  
7 registration for telehealth practice  
8 • Developing a telehealth best practice document  
9

10 June 8<sup>th</sup> is the next scheduled meeting.

11  
12 **19. Licensing Committee Update**

13  
14 At its January 2023 meeting, the Licensing Committee discussed the following:

- 15 • Developing a workforce development action plan  
16 • Pastoral counseling and life coaching  
17 • Developing of a consumer outreach document that would explain the Board’s  
18 regulated professions.  
19

20 July 21<sup>st</sup> is the next scheduled meeting.

21  
22 **20. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding AB 665 (Carrillo) Minors:  
23 Consent to Mental Health Services**

24  
25 AB 665 amends Family Code (FC) §6924 to make requirements for a minor to  
26 consent to mental health treatment equal for both Medi-Cal recipients and non-  
27 Medi-Cal recipients.  
28

29 Motion: Support AB 665 and recommend including all the Board's license types  
30 in the definition of mental health professionals who may determine consent and  
31 to correct reference to the Licensed Educational Psychologist Practice Act in FC  
32 §6924; and to direct staff to express the Board’s concerns about navigating  
33 various law codes regarding the same law and the inclusion of foster children in  
34 this bill.  
35

36 M/S: Disposti/Ranasinghe

37  
38 Public Comment

39 NASW-CA and CAMFT voiced support for AB 665.  
40

41 Vote: Yea 11; Nay 0; Abstain 1. Motion carried.  
42

1

Member	Vote
Max Disposti	Y
Ross Erlich	Y
Susan Friedman	Y
Justin Huft	Y
Christopher Jones	Y
Abigail Ortega	Y
Kelly Ranasinghe	Y
John Sovec	Y
Wendy Strack	Y
Eleanor Uribe	abstain
Dr. Annette Walker	Y
Yvette Casares Willis	Y

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**21. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding AB 941 (Waldron) Controlled Substances: Psychedelic-Assisted Therapy for Combat Veterans**

5

6

7

This item was cut.

8

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**22. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding AB 996 (Low) Department of Consumer Affairs: Continuing Education: Conflict-of-Interest Policy**

10

11

12

This item was cut.

13

14

**23. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding AB 1055 (Bains) Alcohol Drug Counselors**

15

16

17

This item was cut.

18

19

**24. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding AB 1451 (Jackson) Behavioral Health Crisis Treatment**

20

21

22

AB 1451 requires a health care service plan contract or health insurance policy issued, amended, or renewed on or after January 1, 2024 that provides coverage for medically necessary treatment of mental health and substance use disorders to also cover treatment for urgent and emergent mental health and substance use disorders.

23

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Public Comment

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Gonzales, NASW-CA: NASW-CA supports AB 1451.

30

31

Motion: Support AB 1451.

32

33

M/S: Friedman/Walker

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Public Comment: No further comments

Vote: Yea 11; Nay 0; Absent 1. Motion carried.

Member	Vote
Max Disposti	Y
Ross Erlich	Y
Susan Friedman	Y
Justin Huft	Y
Christopher Jones	Y
Abigail Ortega	Y
Kelly Ranasinghe	Y
John Sovec	Y
Wendy Strack	Y
Eleanor Uribe	absent
Dr. Annette Walker	Y
Yvette Casares Willis	Y

6  
7

**25. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding SB 11 (Menjivar) California State University: Mental Health Counseling**

8

SB 11 would require the California State University (CSU) system to have a minimum of one full-time mental health counselor per 1,500 students at each of its campuses. The bill also requires the CSU system to create a pipeline to incentivize interested students to become mental health counselors in the state.

9

Board Comments

10

Huft: Supports the bill but language does not define mental health counselor, and the language should list the licensed mental health counselors.

11

Friedman: The bill does not address giving money to people to enter the mental health professions.

12

Jones: Supports SB 11. Clarified that the language states that the mental health counselor must be licensed in the state of California.

13

Motion: Support SB 11. M/S: Jones/Erlich

14

Sovec: Concerned about the lack of definition of a mental health counselor.

15

Strack: Is comfortable with the language as is.

16

Ortega: Wants to ensure that associates are included as mental health counselors.

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Public Comment

Dr. Leah Brew: Urged the Board to take a support position with recommendations, not a “support if amended” position. Issues are 1) Within her institution, students are on an 8-week wait list to receive services. Some institutions (universities) have a model that requires “psych interns” and not allowing the trainees to do the work. The trainees in the CSU institutions are qualified to do this work. 2) With the growth of telehealth, there is no room for additional offices to do the work. 3) Not open to utilizing other professions. Depending on who the director is of the Counseling and Psychological Services group, will determine who is hired. For example, an institution may only hire psychologists with psychology interns. 4) Money for recruitment is useless. There are more applicants than available seats in the programs. Funding should go to growing the programs and ability to admit more students, hiring full time faculty to teach and provide offices for faculty. Suggested that the Board express these concerns with the author.

Gonzales, NASW-CA: NASW-CA supports SB 11. Commented that recruiting students is important for recruiting diverse professionals, the possible paid internship is important for social work; many students are struggling financially.

Motion: Support SB 11 with the following recommendations to the author: 1) specify the license types to define mental health professional, 2) include associates, trainees, and social work interns in the definition of the mental health professional, 3) funding should also include growing programs to admit more applicants into the programs.

M/S: Jones/Erlich

Public Comment: no further comment

Vote: Yea 11; Nay 0; Absent 1. Motion carried.

Member	Vote
Max Disposti	Y
Ross Erlich	Y
Susan Friedman	Y
Justin Huft	Y
Christopher Jones	Y
Abigail Ortega	Y
Kelly Ranasinghe	Y
John Sovec	Y
Wendy Strack	Y
Eleanor Uribe	Y
Dr. Annette Walker	Y
Yvette Casares Willis	Y

33

1 **26. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding SB 238 (Wiener) Health Care**  
2 **Coverage: Independent Medical Review**  
3

4 SB 238 seeks to reduce barriers to mental health care for children and young  
5 adults by making the independent medical review process automatic, rather than  
6 consumer-initiated, for mental health treatment and substance use disorder  
7 treatment denials for children and young adults up to age 26.  
8

9 Motion: Support SB 238.

10 M/S: Friedman/Walker  
11

12 Public Comment: None  
13

14 Vote: Yea 12; Nay 0; Abstain 0. Motion carried.  
15  
16

Member	Vote
Max Disposti	Y
Ross Erlich	Y
Susan Friedman	Y
Justin Huft	Y
Christopher Jones	Y
Abigail Ortega	Y
Kelly Ranasinghe	Y
John Sovec	Y
Wendy Strack	Y
Eleanor Uribe	Y
Dr. Annette Walker	Y
Yvette Casares Willis	Y

17  
18  
19 **27. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding SB 372 (Menjivar) Department**  
20 **of Consumer Affairs: Licensee and Registrant Records: Name and Gender**  
21 **Changes**  
22

23 SB 372 would require a licensing board under DCA to update its records,  
24 including any records contained in its online license verification system, to  
25 include a licensee or registrant's updated legal name or gender, and make the  
26 former name and gender confidential, when that licensee or registrant provides  
27 government-issued documentation that their legal name or gender has been  
28 changed.  
29

30 Amendments are anticipated on SB 372.  
31

1 Board Comments

2 Disposti: Expressed the importance of supporting SB 372 and protecting  
3 therapists. If an individual changes their vital records due to gender identity, the  
4 public has no access to those records, which is protected by law. This bill is  
5 good but the loophole needs to be closed. Supports SB 372.  
6

7 Erlich: Concerned about not having ability to search online for prior disciplinary  
8 actions taken on a licensee. The public should have access to that information.  
9

10 Disposti: Supports consumer protection as well as the safety of therapists.  
11

12 Motion: Support SB 372.  
13

14 M/S: Disposti/Sovec  
15

16 Further Board Discussion

17 Ortega: Asked why the Board of Psychology opposed SB 372.

18 Rosanne Helms responded that the Board of Psychology opposed it  
19 based on consumer protection and ability to search for disciplinary action  
20 taken on a licensee. Added that Speech-Language Pathology and  
21 Audiology & Hearing Aid Dispensers Board opposed SB 372 unless  
22 amended to strike the dead name from disciplinary documents.  
23

24 Sabina Knight: Another issue is that all DCA boards report disciplinary actions to  
25 the National Practitioner Database.  
26

27 Uribe: 1) Concerned about the safety of therapists. 2) Agrees that consumers  
28 should have access to the disciplinary background of a licensee. 3) Important for  
29 consumers to be able to seek a therapist by gender, i.e., a female rape victim  
30 may request a female therapist.  
31

32 Public Comment

33 Gonzales, NASW-CA: NASW-CA and other associations co-sponsored this bill.  
34 Pointed out that this process would be by request; this is not an automatic  
35 process for each person who changes their name. This bill would also protect  
36 victims of domestic violence who change their names.  
37

38 Dr. Brew: Urged the Board to support SB 372.  
39

40 Kristin Roscoe, CAMFT: CAMFT is a co-sponsor of SB 372 and urged the Board  
41 to support SB 372.  
42

43 Board Comments

44 Ranasinghe: Supports SB 372.



1 Sovec: Implementation will be a struggle, but this is needed.

2  
3 Vote: Yea 10; Nay 1; Abstain 1. Motion carried.

4

Member	Vote
Max Disposti	Y
Ross Erlich	abstain
Susan Friedman	Y
Justin Huft	Y
Christopher Jones	Y
Abigail Ortega	Y
Kelly Ranasinghe	Y
John Sovec	Y
Wendy Strack	Y
Eleanor Uribe	N
Dr. Annette Walker	Y
Yvette Casares Willis	Y

5  
6  
7 **28. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding SB 373 (Menjivar) Board of**  
8 **Behavioral Sciences, Board of Psychology, and Medical Board of**  
9 **California: Licensees' and Registrants' Addresses**

10  
11 SB 373 would prohibit the Board of Behavioral Sciences and the Board of  
12 Psychology from disclosing the full address of record of licensees and registrants  
13 on their internet web site. Instead, only the city, state, county, and zip code of a  
14 licensee or registrant must be disclosed by each board on the internet. This  
15 does not apply to secondary documents linked to a board's website that may  
16 contain an address of record. Each board must still provide a licensee or  
17 registrant's full address upon request in specified circumstances.

18  
19 Board staff requested two minor technical amendments, which were presented.

20  
21 Public Comment

22 Caldwell: Requested that disciplinary documents, moving forward, does not  
23 display addresses. Urged the Board to support.

24  
25 Roscoe, CAMFT: CAMFT co-sponsored this bill and urged the Board to support.

26  
27 Gonzales, NASW-CA: NASW-CA co-sponsored this bill and urged the Board to  
28 support.

29  
30 Motion: Support SB 373 and continue to work with the authors regarding the  
31 minor technical matters.

32  
33 M/S: Disposti/Uribe

1 Public Comment: No further comment

2  
3 Vote: Yea 11; Nay 0; Abstain 1. Motion carried.

Member	Vote
Max Disposti	Y
Ross Erlich	Y
Susan Friedman	Y
Justin Huft	Y
Christopher Jones	Y
Abigail Ortega	abstain
Kelly Ranasinghe	Y
John Sovec	Y
Wendy Strack	Y
Eleanor Uribe	Y
Dr. Annette Walker	Y
Yvette Casares Willis	Y

5  
6  
7 **29. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding SB 509 (Portantino) School**  
8 **Employee and Pupil Training: Youth Mental and Behavioral Health: Mental**  
9 **Health Education**

10  
11 SB 509 requires the Department of Education to make sure that at least 75  
12 percent of its classified and certificated school employees at each school who  
13 have direct contact with pupils have received training in youth behavioral health.  
14 It also requires that all pupils in grades 1-12 receive evidence-based, age-  
15 appropriate mental health education from trained instructors at least once in  
16 elementary school, at least once in junior high/middle school, and at least once in  
17 high school.

18  
19 Board Comment

20 Ortega: Concerned about the one-time training, which is not enough training.

21  
22 Uribe: Language is vague and needs more clarification.

23  
24 Motion: Support SB 509.

25  
26 M/S: Huft/Erlich

27  
28 Public Comment: None

29  
30 Vote: Yea 10; Nay 1; Abstain 0. Motion carried.

1

Member	Vote
Max Disposti	Y
Ross Erlich	Y
Susan Friedman	Y
Justin Huft	Y
Christopher Jones	Y
Abigail Ortega	Y
Kelly Ranasinghe	Y
John Sovec	Y
Wendy Strack	Y
Eleanor Uribe	N
Dr. Annette Walker	Y
Yvette Casares Willis	Y

2

3

4

**30. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding SB 513 (Wiener) Incarcerated Persons: Mental Health**

5

6

7

This bill seeks to provide regular mental health therapy to all incarcerated inmates in California, not just those who are classified as severely mentally ill, with a goal of rehabilitation and reduced recidivism.

8

9

10

11

Staff pointed out that SB 513 provides non-codified intent language that defines mental health therapy as 50-minute psychotherapy sessions offered a minimum of two times per month provided by a psychiatrist, psychologist, licensed social worker, or licensed therapist.

12

13

14

15

16

For this definition to have its intended effect, it should be included in the actual statute that the bill is adding. Additionally, specific license types, rather than “licensed therapist” should be referenced.

17

18

19

20

Motion: Support SB 513 and request clarification if the bill includes youth, and if so, recommend including LEPs; and recommend defining “licensed therapist” and include all of BBS license types within the definition.

21

22

23

24

M/S: Walker/Disposti

25

26

Board Comment

27

Uribe: California does not have the workforce for this, and much of the bill needs to be worked out.

28

29

30

Public Comment

31

Gonzales, NASW-CA: Read an email from Eric Hernandez, which states that all inmates currently have access to mental health services.

32

1 Vote: Yea 12; Nay 0; Abstain 0. Motion carried.  
2

Member	Vote
Max Disposti	Y
Ross Erlich	Y
Susan Friedman	Y
Justin Huft	Y
Christopher Jones	Y
Abigail Ortega	Y
Kelly Ranasinghe	Y
John Sovec	Y
Wendy Strack	Y
Eleanor Uribe	Y
Dr. Annette Walker	Y
Yvette Casares Willis	Y

3  
4  
5 **31. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding SB 525 (Durazo) Minimum**  
6 **Wage: Health Care Workers**

7  
8 SB 525 sets a statewide health care worker minimum wage of \$25 per hour for  
9 persons working in covered health care employment.

10  
11 Motion: Support SB 525.

12  
13 M/S: Disposti/Walker

14  
15 Board Comments

16 Huft: There is no empirical evidence supporting an increase of wages  
17 significantly decreases jobs. There is empirical evidence supporting that  
18 increasing minimum wage will increase quality of life of the worker and the  
19 community.

20  
21 Ranasinghe: Concerned that an increase in wages will result in workers leaving  
22 inland rural areas for agencies in other areas that can pay the higher wages.

23  
24 Erlich: Supports the idea but is conflicted.

25  
26 Sovec: Intent of the bill is good but feels that this is not the bill to implement this,  
27 however, will support.

28  
29 Public Comment

30 Gonzales, NASW-CA: NASW-CA supports SB 525.  
31

1 Caldwell: Urged the Board to take support unless amended. There are  
2 questions in what circumstances the bill will and will not apply. It seems odd to  
3 not apply this to private practice settings. As for non-profit entities that are  
4 paying less than \$25/hour, it would be suggested to include protection to ensure  
5 that the bill does not lead those entities to reclassify their employees as  
6 volunteers.

7  
8 Vote: Yea 12; Nay 0; Abstain 1. Motion carried.

9

Member	Vote
Max Disposti	Y
Ross Erlich	abstain
Susan Friedman	Y
Justin Huft	Y
Christopher Jones	Y
Abigail Ortega	Y
Kelly Ranasinghe	Y
John Sovec	Y
Wendy Strack	Y
Eleanor Uribe	Y
Dr. Annette Walker	Y
Yvette Casares Willis	Y

10

11

12 **32. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding SB 544 (Laird) Bagley-Keene**  
13 **Open Meeting Act: Teleconferencing**

14

15 SB 544 would modernize the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act requirements for  
16 state bodies conducting a meeting by teleconferencing.

17

18 Public Comment

19 Brew: Urged the Board to support SB 544.

20 Roscoe, CAMFT: Urge the Board to support.

21

22 Motion: Support SB 544.

23

24 M/S: Ranasinghe/Jones

25

26 Vote: Yea 12; Nay 0; Abstain 0. Motion carried.

27

1

Member	Vote
Max Disposti	Y
Ross Erlich	Y
Susan Friedman	Y
Justin Huft	Y
Christopher Jones	Y
Abigail Ortega	Y
Kelly Ranasinghe	Y
John Sovec	Y
Wendy Strack	Y
Eleanor Uribe	Y
Dr. Annette Walker	Y
Yvette Casares Willis	Y

2

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**33. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding SB 766 (Eggman) Social Workers**

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SB 766 would limit the use of the title “social worker” to only those who hold a degree from an accredited school of social work.

8

9

10

Staff Comment: SB 766 appears to give the Board the authority to enforce title protection for social workers, because it is written under a code that is within the Board’s jurisdiction. However, the language is permissive – it states that the Board may bring action for an injunction or other appropriate relief with the superior court. As written, the bill does not require any enforcement of the social work title by the Board.

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Public Comment

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Gonzales, NASW-CA: NASW-CA sponsored SB 766. Title protection for social workers has been a priority of NASW for many years. Many social workers who get their degrees, do not all get licensed; some work at macro levels. NASW-CA is concerned about the misuse of the tile social worker, especially used by those who do not have a social work degree. She presented the history/background of the social worker, education, and requirements. SB 766 will protect social workers and consumers.

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26

Victor Manelo, Board President of NASW-CA: Urged the Board to support SB 766.

27

28

29

Roscoe, CAMFT: SB 766 would do the following: 1) result in job losses to psychotherapists; 2) decrease access to behavioral health care. CAMFT’s concerns: 1) the term “social worker” is a common term used throughout the state; 2) there is no consumer harm or public crisis being solved; 3) unclear enforcement and disciplinary action implementation. CAMFT took a position of

30

31

32

33

1           opposed unless amended to exclude marriage and family therapists or  
2           professional clinical counselors from the bill and urged the Board to take no  
3           position.  
4

5           Brew: 1) Social work is unique in some ways but not always and outlined the  
6           qualifications that were similar or alike. 2) In regard to job title changes, some  
7           students were still not allowed to work in certain counties because changing the  
8           titles in the database is too costly or too labor intensive to change the title of a  
9           particular position. It is taking over 11 years and changes still have not been  
10          implemented.

11  
12          Gonzales, NASW-CA: Stated that this is a title act, not practice act. If the bill  
13          passes, it doesn't mean that other professions cannot be hired for jobs. Stated  
14          that job specifications will not change.

15  
16          Roscoe, CAMFT: This job title is not confined to county work alone; it is across  
17          the spectrum where mental health care takes place across the state. Cited one  
18          county agency that took 3 years to implement a title change.

19  
20          Board Comments

21          Ranasinghe: Agrees with CAMFT and moved to oppose.

22  
23          Huft: Conflicted about whether this is the purview of the Board to enforce this  
24          title protection act.

25  
26          Motion: Oppose SB 766. Moved by Ranasinghe. No second. Motion died.

27  
28          Uribe: Agrees with title protection. Does not agree with the fines and jail time.  
29          Moved to support SB 766 with amendments.

30  
31          Motion: Support SB 766 if amended to extend timeline of implementation and  
32          reduce or eliminate fines. Moved by Uribe.

33  
34          Ortega: Suggested including a grandfather clause or extending timeline of  
35          implementation, reducing fines.

36  
37          Strack: Suggested waiting for all sides to work it out. The Policy & Advocacy  
38          Committee will have an opportunity to hear this matter and make a  
39          recommendation to the Board. There is time take a position later.

40  
41          Uribe: Withdrew the motion.

42  
43          No action taken.  
44

1 **34. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding SB 802 (Roth) Licensing**  
2 **Boards: Disqualification from Licensure: Criminal Conviction**

3  
4 This item was cut the agenda.

5  
6 **35. Update on Board-Sponsored Legislation**

7  
8 The Board is pursuing the following legislative proposals this year:

- 9
  - AB 232 Temporary Practice Allowances
  - SB 887 Board Omnibus Bill

10  
11  
12 **36. Update on Board Rulemaking Proposal**

13 Enforcement Process

14 Status: Under review by the Board's Policy and Advocacy Committee

15  
16  
17 **37. Suggestions for Future Agenda Items**

18 Huft: Using surplus funds to provide financial assistance to cover licensing  
19 fees.

20  
21  
22 Ranasinghe: Expand the Board's mandate to address platforms that are  
23 advertising therapeutic services.

24  
25 Walker: Strategic objective 6.3 board engagement, to include more discussion  
26 about board member leadership training and procedures.

27  
28 Uribe: Mentoring (new clinicians with older clinicians)

29  
30 Caldwell: 1) For those gaining hours under the 90-day rule, the language is not  
31 clear on how much supervision that they need. Discussion on clarifying  
32 experience gained under the 90-day rule. 2) Look at the progression to  
33 licensure from a more holistic perspective and overall progression. What are  
34 the elements of difficulty along the way? What is keeping them from  
35 progressing through the pipeline successfully? Requests the Board to make  
36 more anatomized data sets available to the public.

37  
38 **38. Public Comment for Items not on the Agenda**

39  
40 Brew: Concerned that there has not been an LPCC representative appointed  
41 to the Board. LPCCs need representation. Urged the Governor's Office to  
42 appoint an LPCC member to the Board.

43  
44 Disposti: Turned down a reappointment to the Board and will remain for the  
45 next meeting to oversee Jones transition as Chair.



1 Erlich: Announced that this is his last Board meeting.

2

3 **39. Adjournment**

4

5 The Board adjourned at 3:53 p.m.