

2026 LEGISLATION CONSIDERED BY THE BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

The bills listed below were considered by the Board in May and August 2026. Detailed bill information may be found by clicking links in the “Bill Number” column below.

Bill No.	Author(s)	Sponsor	Title	Bill Version Considered	Board Position	Status	Effective Date
<u>AB 1558</u>	Arambula	American Red Cross	Uniform Emergency Volunteer Health Practitioners Act	Introduced January 8, 2026	No Position	DEAD	N/A
<u>AB 1988</u>	Pellerin	Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services	Companion Chatbots: Crisis Interruption Pauses	Amended April 14, 2026	Support	DEAD	NA
<u>AB 1598</u>	Quirk-Silva	Board of Behavioral Sciences	Behavioral Sciences	Amended August 19, 2026	Sponsor	SIGNED; (Chapter 528, Statutes of 2026)	January 1, 2027 [1]
<u>AB 1979</u>	Bonta	California Nurses Association	Health Care Services: Artificial Intelligence	Amended July 2, 2026	Support	SIGNED; (Chapter 854, Statutes of 2026)	January 1, 2027
<u>AB 2011</u>	Hart	See Note [2] Below.	Nonquantitative Treatment Limitations	Introduced February 17, 2026	Support	SIGNED (Chapter 915, Statutes of 2026)	January 1, 2027
<u>AB 2259</u>	Ransom	Anti-Recidivism Coalition; Mental Health America of CA; CA Association of Marriage & Family Therapists	Prisons: Mental Health	Introduced February 19, 2026	Support if Amended	DEAD	N/A

Bill No.	Author(s)	Sponsor	Title	Bill Version Considered	Board Position	Status	Effective Date
<u>AB 2352</u>	Valencia	CA Behavioral Health Association	Medi-Cal Providers: Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporations	Introduced February 19, 2026	Support	DEAD	N/A
<u>AB 2511</u>	Ahrens	National Union of Healthcare Workers	Behavioral Health Provider Comparable Worth Study	Introduced February 20, 2026	Support	DEAD	N/A
<u>AB 2551</u>	Elhawary	CA Pan-Ethnic Health Network	Health Care Coverage	Amended March 19, 2026	Support	GUT AND AMENDED	N/A
<u>AB 2575</u>	Ortega	CA Nurses Association; California Federation of Labor Unions, AFL-CIO	Health Care Services: Artificial Intelligence	Amended April 23, 2026	No Position	<u>VETOED</u>	N/A
<u>SB 903</u>	Padilla	CA Psychological Association; CA Association of Marriage & Family Therapists; CA Behavioral Health Association	Mental Health Professionals: Artificial Intelligence	Amended July 2, 2026	Support if Amended	<u>VETOED</u>	N/A
<u>SB 934</u>	Wiener	Equality CA; Lambda Legal; National Center for LGBTQ Rights; Trevor Project	Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity Change Efforts	Amended August 13, 2026	Support	SIGNED (Chapter 469, Statutes of 2026)	January 1, 2027
<u>SB 993</u>	Ochoa Bogh	AFSCME Council 57; AFSCME Council 2620	Board of Behavioral Sciences: Licensees: Notices	Amended April 8, 2026	No Position	SIGNED (Chapter 668, Statutes of 2026)	January 1, 2027

Bill No.	Author(s)	Sponsor	Title	Bill Version Considered	Board Position	Status	Effective Date
SB 1248	Cabaldon	Author	State Agencies: Automated Decision Systems	Introduced February 19, 2026	No Position	DEAD	N/A
SB 1445	Senate Committee on Business, Professions, and Economic Development	See Note [3] Below.	Healing Arts	Amended August 20, 2026	Sponsor [3]	SIGNED (Chapter 237, Statutes of 2026)	January 1, 2027

[1] One component of AB 1598, which sets a seven-year age limit on the California Law and Ethics Exam score, has a delayed implementation and goes into effect on January 1, 2030. All other components of the bill are effective on January 1, 2027.

[2] AB 2011 was sponsored by the California Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, the California State Association of Psychiatrists, the Steinberg Institute, The Kennedy Forum, and Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara/California Department of Insurance.

[3] This bill affects numerous healing arts boards under the Department of Consumer Affairs. The Board serves as the sponsor of the provisions of this bill related to its practice acts.