



amended April 5, this bill would require the lot line adjustment to be reflected in a deed and recorded, as specified. This bill, which is now pending in the Assembly Committee on Local Government, would require a record of survey of the lot line adjustment to be filed if required by provisions of the Professional Land Surveyors' Act.

AB 459 (Frizzelle) would enable a Board licensee to renew his/her license any time after delinquency, without regard to length of delinquency, without a reexamination requirement. This is a two-year bill pending in the Assembly Committee on Governmental Efficiency and Consumer Protection.

AB 1729 (Chandler) would increase the penalties for exam subversion, making the offense a misdemeanor and requiring the violator to reimburse costs incurred by the Board up to \$10,000. This bill, supported by PELS, is pending in the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means.

AB 1970 (Cortese) would, among other things, require that in a land improvement plan, tentative, parcel, and final maps must be prepared by a civil engineer. This bill is pending in the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means.

The following is a status update of legislation discussed in detail in CRLR Vol. 9, No. 2 (Spring 1989) at page 73:

SB 419 (Greene, L.), which would allow heads of state and local agencies to make decisions as to qualifications of engineering, land surveying or construction management firms, or private architects when contracting for their services, passed the Senate and is pending in the Assembly Committee on Governmental Efficiency and Consumer Protection.

SB 423 (Stirling) was amended on April 3. Existing law requires each city, county, and city and county to enact an ordinance requiring a preliminary soils report of every subdivision for which a tentative and final map is required. Existing law also requires that the report be prepared by a California-registered civil engineer. This bill would permit the report for a residential subdivision to be submitted to and reviewed by the city or county engineer, as specified. SB 423 has passed the Senate and is pending in the Assembly Local Government Committee.

SB 581 (Green), as amended on April 13, would delete the current requirement that certain lot line adjustments between adjacent parcels which are exempt from the regulations of the Subdivision Map Act be reflected in a record of survey. The bill would instead require that a

survey is performed for the adjustment, it be conducted in conformance with provisions of the Professional Land Surveyors' Act. Violation of these laws would be a misdemeanor. This bill would also require that parcel and final maps prepared and certified by or under the direction of a registered civil engineer or licensed land surveyor be in conformance with the Professional Land Surveyors' Act. SB 581 is still pending in the Senate Committee on Housing and Urban Affairs.

AB 517 (McClintock) would amend the Professional Engineers Act to include the grading of land within the definition of work to be performed only by persons registered as civil engineers. This bill has passed in the Assembly and is pending in the Senate Business and Professions Committee.

AB 709 (Bradley), which would amend sections 8761, 8764.5, and 8801 of the Business and Professions Code to require that all maps, plats, reports, descriptions or other documents issued by a licensed land surveyor or civil engineer must bear the seal or stamp of the licensee or registrant along with the renewal date of the license or registration, is still pending in the Assembly Committee on Governmental Efficiency and Consumer Protection.

AB 1162 (Ferguson), as amended June 6, would require that parcel maps for realty subdivisions be prepared on the basis of a field survey performed under the Professional Land Surveyors' Act, but would permit the map, when authorized by local ordinances, to be compiled from filed or recorded data based on a field survey made within the preceding five years. This bill is pending in the Assembly Ways and Means Committee.

AB 1537 (Bradley). Existing law requires that in any civil action concerning a claim of professional negligence, the plaintiff's attorney is required to attempt to obtain consultation with at least one appropriate professional who is not a party to the action. The attorney is then required to file a certificate declaring that on the basis of that consultation, there is reasonable cause for the filing of the action, and if the consultation was not obtained, why it was not. The attorney is not required to reveal the name, address, or telephone number of the person consulted. This bill, which would have changed that nondisclosure rule to instead require that the certificate be signed by the professional and contain his/her name, address, and telephone number, was dropped by its author.

AB 1748 (Chandler). Under current

law, persons who are applying to become land surveyors and are registered as professional engineers, or have passed an engineer-in-training program, are exempted from taking the first part of the two-part examination. This bill, which is pending in the Assembly Committee on Governmental Efficiency and Consumer Protection, would eliminate that exemption and require a civil engineer who passes the first part of the exam to have one year of responsible field training and one year of responsible office training before he/she could qualify to take the second division of the examination.

AB 1789 (Cortese) would give architects, engineers, and surveyors a design professionals' lien on real property for which a work of improvement is planned, and for which a governmental approval is obtained, in the amount of the contract fee earned. The lien would function much as a mechanics' lien operates under current law, and would be subordinate to encumbrances of construction lenders. This bill is now pending in the Assembly Judiciary Committee.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

September 29 in Sonoma County.

December 1 in San Francisco.

BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING

Executive Officer: Catherine Puri (916) 322-3350

The Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) licenses qualified RNs, certifies qualified nurse midwifery applicants, establishes accreditation requirements for California nursing schools and reviews nursing school curricula. A major Board responsibility involves taking disciplinary action against licensed RNs.

The nine-member Board consists of three public members, three registered nurses actively engaged in patient care, one licensed RN administrator of a nursing service, one nurse educator and one licensed physician. All serve four-year terms.

The Board is financed by licensing fees, and receives no allocation from the general fund. The Board is currently staffed by 56 people.

MAJOR PROJECTS:

Nurse Midwifery Legislation. After consulting legal counsel, BRN has decided to ask the Department of Consumer Affairs to find a sponsor for a bill concerning nurse midwifery candi-



REGULATORY AGENCY ACTION

dates. The Nursing Practice Committee seeks the authority to issue an interim credential which would allow RNs who have applied for certification as nurse midwives through equivalency to render midwifery services under the supervision of a certified nurse midwife (CNM) for a period of one year.

Currently, an RN may be certified as a nurse midwife by demonstrating proof of completion of subject content of advanced experience in maternal and child care, clinical competency evaluations by a CNM and physician, and the successful completion of a nurse midwife examination. The Board believes this poses a threat to consumers because unsupervised RNs have practiced midwifery under standardized procedures without the required initial or ongoing evaluation of their competence to perform these functions. According to the Board, the interim credential would provide increased consumer protection by requiring both CNM supervised and monitored practice during the interim credential period.

Fee Increase. June 26 was the deadline for public comments on the Board's proposal to amend section 1417(b) and (c), Chapter 14, Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations. To implement SB 1267 (Maddy) (Chapter 252, Statutes of 1988), the Board must increase its license renewal fee to \$45, and the penalty fee for failure to renew a license within the prescribed time to \$23. The entire amount of the increase will be credited to the California Registered Nurse Education Fund.

Nursing Shortage Advisory Committee. The Registered Nursing Special Advisory Committee, created pursuant to SB 2755 (Royce) (Chapter 1321, Statutes of 1988), scheduled a public hearing on May 10 in Sacramento. (See CRLR Vol. 9, No. 2 (Spring 1989) p. 74 and Vol. 9, No. 1 (Winter 1989) p. 63 for background information.) The Committee invited consumers, nurses, representatives of health care facilities, and other interested parties to give testimony on the nature, causes, and impact of the nursing shortage and on solutions that have been tried.

Review of the Board Policy Manual. The BRN is conducting a comprehensive review of its policy manual, which is expected to be completed in several months.

LEGISLATION:

AB 459 (Frizzelle), as amended, would enable a BRN licensee whose license is delinquent to renew that license at any time, regardless of length of de-

linquency, without a reexamination requirement. The Board opposes AB 459, which has become a two-year bill.

SB 723 (McCorquodale) would amend the Health and Safety Code to change the title "Health Manpower Pilot Projects" to "Health Occupations Pilot Projects." It would require that guidelines be established to ensure that consumers will not be endangered by unqualified participants performing tasks in these pilot projects. The BRN supports this bill, which is pending in the Assembly Health Committee.

SB 1067 (Boatwright) would require RNs working with a local Emergency Medical Service agency to complete a course on sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS). This bill is pending in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 856 (Felando) would require health care facilities to use only persons employed by the facility to provide patient care. This would eliminate the use of nurses from registries in the in-hospital setting. The BRN opposes this bill, which has been referred for interim study.

AB 1055 (Roos) would require the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development to implement a program for recruitment of RNs by educating high school students about nursing, making grants for nursing education, and disseminating nursing information. The BRN supports this bill which is pending in the Assembly Ways and Means Committee.

AB 1327 (Jones) would require the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development to develop a comprehensive plan regarding the need for health professionals in the state. This bill is pending in the Senate Health and Human Services Committee.

AB 1558 (Allen) would give the Emergency Medical Service Authority the right to establish continuing education standards for all pre-hospital personnel. This bill is pending in the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means.

AB 1581 (Murray) would create the California Commission on AIDS. One member of the Commission would be a representative of the nursing profession. The BRN supports this bill, which is pending in the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means.

AB 1729 (Chandler) would authorize the imposition of a fine up to \$10,000 upon any person who subverts a licensing examination. The BRN supports this bill, which is pending in the Assembly Ways and Means Committee.

AB 2183 (Murray) would require the state Department of Health Services to license geriatric technicians. The BRN

opposes this bill, which is pending in the Assembly Health Committee.

The following is a status update on bills reported in detail in CRLR Vol. 9, No. 2 (Spring 1989) at page 74:

SB 368 (Torres), which would redefine nursing hours, is pending in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

SB 576 (Maddy), which would allow nursing students who agree to work in a county health facility to participate in the Registered Nurse Education Program, is pending in the Assembly Health Committee.

AB 638 (Quackenbush), which would increase the Board's membership from nine to eleven members, is pending in the Senate Business and Professions Committee.

AB 395 (Felando), which would require all health care providers who provide services to dialysis patients at home to be held to the same standards as when they provide health care services within a dialysis clinic, is still pending in the Assembly Health Committee.

RECENT MEETINGS:

On March 22, the Board adopted the decision of Administrative Law Judge Ronald M. Gruen, and revoked the license of Abigail H. Odam of Del Mar for repeated acts of gross negligence and incompetence involving home births. (See CRLR Vol. 9, No. 2 (Spring 1989) p. 74 for further information.)

FUTURE MEETINGS:

To be announced.

BOARD OF CERTIFIED SHORTHAND REPORTERS

*Executive Officer: Richard Black
(916) 445-5101*

The Board of Certified Shorthand Reporters (BCSR) licenses and disciplines shorthand reporters, recognizes court reporting schools and administers the Transcript Reimbursement Fund, which provides shorthand reporting services to low-income litigants otherwise unable to afford such services.

The Board consists of five members, three public and two from the industry, who serve four-year terms. The two industry members must have been actively engaged as shorthand reporters in California for at least five years immediately preceding their appointment.

MAJOR PROJECTS:

Regulatory Changes Modified and Approved. On March 22, BCSR released