



the Legislative Committee discussed the issuance of intern registration numbers. After failing the licensure exam, applicants have been registering for intern numbers, which enables them to work in private practice. The Board decided that since the purpose of an internship is to allow applicants to gain hours towards licensure, it will not issue intern registration numbers to people who have already fulfilled the qualifying number of internship hours. This does not prevent people who failed the test from gaining additional experience, as they are still eligible for agency work.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

January 19-20 in Los Angeles.

CEMETERY BOARD

Executive Officer: John Gill
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In addition to cemeteries, the Cemetery Board licenses cemetery brokers, salespersons and crematories. Religious cemeteries, public cemeteries and private cemeteries established before 1939 which are less than ten acres in size are all exempt from Board regulation.

Because of these broad exemptions, the Cemetery Board licenses only about 185 cemeteries. It also licenses approximately 25 crematories and 1,400 brokers and salespersons. A license as a broker or salesperson is issued if the candidate passes an examination testing knowledge of the English language and elementary arithmetic, and demonstrates a fair understanding of the cemetery business.

On June 24, Governor Deukmejian appointed Karen R. McGagin as a public member on the Board. Ms. McGagin, of Fair Oaks, is a public member of the California Association of Realtors. On July 22, Governor Deukmejian reappointed Frank R. Haswell to the Board. Mr. Haswell, of Valencia, is vice-president of a Los Angeles memorial park.

MAJOR PROJECTS:

Proposed Regulatory Changes. At its September 29 meeting, the Cemetery Board was scheduled to hold a public hearing on a proposed change to its regulations, which appear in Chapter 23, Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations. This proposed regulation would decrease annual regulatory charges.

Section 9765 of the Business and Professions Code authorizes the Board to fix the annual regulatory charge for every cemetery authority operating a

cemetery at not more than \$400 per year, plus an additional charge of not more than \$.50 for each burial, entombment, inurnment, or cremation made during the preceding full calendar year, which charges are deposited in the Cemetery Fund.

Currently, section 2310 of the Board's regulations imposes a regulatory charge and interment fee of \$350 and \$.50, respectively, and the cremation fee paid by crematories is \$.50. The proposed change would decrease the regulatory charge to \$300, the interment fee to \$.40, and the cremation fee to \$.40.

LEGISLATION:

SB 2483 (Torres), which was signed by the Governor, adds section 10061.5 to the Health and Safety Code. Existing law requires each local registrar to send to the State Registrar the original certificate of death accepted by the local registrar; under most circumstances, the last attending physician must state the cause of death on the certificate. This bill permits the county board of supervisors to require the local registrar to send a copy of each certificate sent to the State Registrar to the physician making the statement of cause of death on the certificate.

The following is a status update of bills discussed in CRLR Vol. 8, No. 3 (Summer 1988) at page 50:

AB 4233 (Hannigan), signed by the Governor on September 30 (Chapter 1620, Statutes of 1988), requires the Board to inspect the books, records, and premises of crematories and holders of certificates to operate crematories. This bill also makes it unlawful for any person to remove or possess dental gold or silver from any human remains without specific written permission of the person(s) having the right to control those remains.

AB 2866 (LaFollette) requires local agencies to provide notice of a public hearing whenever the owners of a cemetery apply for permission to change the use of the cemetery.

As amended on August 23, this bill also adds section 65096 to the Government Code and Chapter 5 (commencing with section 81210) of Part 1 of Division 8 to the Health and Safety Code. The addition of section 65096 to the Government Code requires that whenever a person applies to a city for any entitlement for use which would permit all or any part of a cemetery to be used for other than cemetery purposes, the city and county shall give notice. On or after January 1, 1990, each person who has purchased or agreed to purchase

interment rights in a cemetery of which a proposed change in use is contemplated, shall be provided written notice.

This bill was signed by the Governor on September 27 (Chapter 1440, Statutes of 1988).

SB 2775 (Roberti) defines unprofessional conduct of Board licensees, and specifies that unprofessional conduct constitutes grounds for disciplinary action against a licensee. This bill was signed by September 26 (Chapter 1422, Statutes of 1988).

SB 2359 (Roberti), as amended on August 29, permits a coroner to delegate to an agency of another county or of the federal government, when agreed to by that agency, the coroner's duties concerning investigation of a death, when the agency is authorized to perform the functions being delegated, and the agency has a jurisdictional interest or involvement in the death. This bill also authorizes a physician to designate one or more other physicians who have access to that physician's records, to act on behalf of the physician for purposes of specifying the cause of death on a death certificate, provided that any person so designated acts in consultation with the physician. This bill was signed on September 21 (Chapter 1139, Statutes of 1988).

FUTURE MEETINGS:

February 8 in San Diego.

BUREAU OF COLLECTION AND INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES

Chief: Alonzo Hall
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The Bureau of Collection and Investigative Services is one of over forty separate regulatory agencies within the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA). The chief of the Bureau is directly responsible to the director of the Department.

The Bureau regulates the practices of collection agencies in California. Collection agencies are businesses that collect debts owed to others. The responsibility of the Bureau in regulating collection agencies is two-fold: (1) to protect the consumer/debtor from false, deceptive, and abusive practices and (2) to protect businesses which refer accounts for collection from financial loss.

In addition, eight other industries are regulated by the Bureau, including private security services (security guards and private patrol operators), repossession, private investigators, alarm company operators, protection dog opera-