



REGULATORY AGENCY ACTION

1032, Statutes of 1988).

AB 4693 (Grisham), as amended on August 8, requires BCSR exam applicants to apply to take the exam at least 45 days in advance of the exam. With regard to renewal, reinstatement, or reissuance of a BCSR certificate after its expiration, the bill reduces the previous five-year period to three years after expiration, and requires the holder to return the expired certificate to the Board to obtain a new certificate.

The bill also provides that a certificate may be suspended or revoked for the violation of specified laws governing CSRs, or violation of the Board's regulations. Finally, the bill requires court reporting schools to file a current school catalog with the Board not later than June 30 of each year. This bill was signed by the Governor on September 24 (Chapter 1327, Statutes of 1988).

RECENT MEETINGS:

At its August 27 meeting, the Board considered improving its examination by providing a videotaped dictation section. This would help to regulate the speed of dictation, and ensure that all examinees work under equal conditions. A prototype will be made available within twelve months for school trial. The Board was also informed that additional funding will be required to update the English portion of the examination. These funds will be requested in the next session of the legislature.

Executive Officer Richard Black plans to produce a brochure which will notify potential students of opportunities in the shorthand reporting field. The Board believes this step may alleviate the apparent shortage of CSRs.

Board members decided to visit the California School of Court Reporting in Riverside in November to monitor quality. In February, Board members will inspect Vista Del Mar in Fresno, and Golden State College in Visalia.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

December 17 in Burlingame.
February 18 in Los Angeles.
May 19-20 in San Francisco.
June 24 in San Diego.

STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL BOARD

Registrar: Mary Lynn Ferreira
(916) 924-2291

The Structural Pest Control Board (SPCB) licenses structural pest control operators and field representatives. The

latter can function only under a licensed operator and secure pest control work for the operator. Each structural pest control firm is required to have one licensed operator, regardless of the number of branches the firm operates. A licensed field representative can also hold an operator's license.

Licensees are classified as: (1) Branch 1, Fumigation, the control of household and wood-destroying pests by fumigants (tenting); (2) Branch 2, General Pest, the control of general pests without fumigants; or (3) Branch 3, Termite, the control of wood-destroying organisms with insecticides, but not with the use of fumigants, and including authority to perform structural repairs and corrections. An operator can be licensed in all three branches, but more often will limit the variety of his or her expertise for purposes of efficiency and subcontract out to other firms.

SPCB also issues applicator certificates. These otherwise unlicensed individuals, employed by licensees, are required to take a written exam on pesticide equipment, formulation, application and label directions if they apply pesticides. Such certificates are not transferable from one company to another.

SPCB is comprised of four public and three industry representatives.

MAJOR PROJECTS:

Regulatory Changes. On August 16, the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) disapproved the Board's proposed changes to several of its continuing education regulations (sections 1950, 1950.5, and 1953, Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations). (See CRLR Vol. 8, No. 3 (Summer 1988) p. 80 and Vol. 7, No. 4 (Fall 1987) p. 68 for background information.) OAL rejected the proposed regulatory action because it failed to comply with the necessity and clarity standards in Government Code section 11349.1, and because the rulemaking file did not include a summary and response to each comment made in connection with the rulemaking. The Board plans to modify the proposed regulations and resubmit them to OAL.

On September 19, OAL approved the Board's proposed changes to sections 1948 and 1997 of its regulations. The amendment to section 1948 abolishes the Board's current fees for all of its licenses, renewals, report filings, and examinations, in response to the Board's fiscal surplus created over the past three years. The change to section 1997 abol-

ishes the \$2 stamp fee for stamps which must be included with inspection reports. (See CRLR Vol. 8, No. 3 (Summer 1988) p. 80 for background information.)

LEGISLATION:

The following is a status update on legislation discussed in detail in CRLR Vol. 8, No. 3 (Summer 1988) at page 80:

AB 4274 (Bane) was signed by the Governor on September 21 (Chapter 1184, Statutes of 1988). As amended June 9, this measure alters inspection requirements for structural pest control companies with respect to the contents of structural inspection reports. This bill requires that upon request, each recommendation for corrective action must independently state the conditions causing infestation. The bill also requires, under specified circumstances, that a bid or estimate must be given for each corrective action recommended.

SB 2610 (Montoya) died in the Business and Professions Committee. It would have required, on and after July 1, 1989, that registered companies provide a written notice, on a Board-approved form, to parties requesting pest inspections. This notice would provide the party with information regarding conditions likely to cause infestation.

AB 3059 (Areias), also pertaining to inspection report requirements, was withdrawn at the request of its author.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

December 10 in Sacramento.
February 25 in Universal City.

TAX PREPARER PROGRAM

Administrator: Don Procidia
(916) 324-4977

Enacted in 1973, abolished in 1982, and reenacted by SB 1453 (Presley) effective January 31, 1983, the Tax Preparer Program registers commercial tax preparers and tax interviewers in California.

Registrants must be at least eighteen years old, have a high school diploma or pass an equivalency exam, have completed sixty hours of instruction in basic personal income tax law, theory and practice within the previous eighteen months or have at least two years' experience equivalent to that instruction. Twenty hours of continuing education are required each year.

Prior to registration, tax preparers must deposit a bond or cash in the amount of \$2,000 with the Department