



REGULATORY AGENCY ACTION

Meanwhile, letters have been sent to the professional associations to elicit their view on the addition of a CE requirement. The Board also decided to send questionnaires to BRGG's licensees with the next license renewal notices requesting information which may aid the Board in deciding whether CE is needed.

Board President Howard Spellman requested that the directory listing all of BRGG's licensees be updated. Executive Officer John Wolfe said that an updated directory could be compiled after the October-November license renewals.

The Board discussed current enforcement procedures, and several Board members commented that they do not completely understand the process which occurs when a licensee is investigated. In an effort to better understand the BRGG's current disciplinary procedures, Board member Thomas Slaven volunteered to examine the enforcement process by tracking actual cases, and will report to the Board on his perceptions.

The Board received a petition from Robert Walton requesting that rules be adopted which would allow licensed general contractors to conduct minimal subsurface investigation. The Board denied the petition on ground that BRGG does not have the legal authority to regulate in the area suggested by Walton.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

To be announced.

BOARD OF GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND

Executive Officer: Manuel Urena
(916) 445-9040

The Board of Guide Dogs for the Blind has three primary functions. The Board protects the blind guide dog user by licensing instructors and schools to ensure that they possess certain minimum qualifications. The Board also enforces standards of performance and conduct of these licensees as established by law. Finally, the Board polices unlicensed practice.

There are three guide dog schools in California. These schools train the blind in the use of guide dogs. Each school also trains its own dogs. Each blind person is then matched with a dog using factors such as size and temperament. To provide this specialized service, the schools must have special facilities, which are inspected by the Board members as needed.

The Board consists of seven members, two of whom must be dog users

(Business and Professions Code section 7200).

MAJOR PROJECTS:

Regulatory Changes. The Office of Administrative Law (OAL) recently approved proposed changes affecting regulations contained in Chapter 22, Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations. The amendments, which were initially disapproved by OAL in March and approved in May upon resubmission, add sections 2260(a), 2261(a), and 2268(a) to the Board's regulations. The new provisions (1) provide an alternative method of determining experience required for licensure; (2) provide for examinations; and (3) define "financial responsibility" for schools wishing to solicit funds. (For background information, see CRLR Vol. 7, No. 3 (Summer 1987) p. 72.)

LEGISLATION:

SB 2229 (Marks) was amended April 14 and passed by the Senate on May 12. Existing law authorizes trainers of guide dogs to take the dogs to places of public access, such as housing, transportation, and other places of public accommodation, for purposes of training the dogs. This bill would extend this right to trainers of signal dogs for the deaf and service dogs for the physically disabled.

Existing law requires zoos and wild animal parks, which are not required to allow guide dogs to accompany blind persons onto their premises, to provide free transportation to the blind persons and adequate kennel facilities for their dogs, as specified. This measure would extend these provisions to signal dogs of deaf persons and service dogs of the physically disabled. The bill would also expand the definition of "wild animal park" to include any marine, mammal, or aquatic park open to the general public.

Finally, SB 2229 would require the Board to conduct a study concerning expansion of the Board's regulatory jurisdiction to include signal dogs for the deaf and hearing impaired, as well as service dogs for the physically disabled. SB 2229 is pending before the Assembly Committee on Human Services.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

To be announced.

BUREAU OF HOME FURNISHINGS AND THERMAL INSULATION

Chief: Gordon Damant
(916) 920-6951

The Bureau of Home Furnishings and Thermal Insulation (BHF) regulates manufacturers, wholesalers, dealers, upholsterers, retailers, renovators, and sterilizers of furniture and bedding. In addition, the Bureau establishes rules regarding labeling requirements approved by the state Department of Public Health pertaining to furniture and bedding.

To enforce its regulations, the Bureau has access to premises, equipment, materials, and articles of furniture.

The chief or any inspector may open, inspect and analyze the contents of any furniture or bedding and may condemn, withhold from sale, seize or destroy any upholstered furniture or bedding or any filling material found to be in violation of Bureau rules and regulations. The Bureau may also revoke or suspend registration for violation of its rules.

The Bureau is assisted by a thirteen-member Advisory Board consisting of seven public members and six industry representatives.

MAJOR PROJECTS:

Insulation Program Inspectors. Presently, the Bureau employs no field inspectors for its insulation regulation program established under AB 1311 (Johnson) (see CRLR Vol. 7, No. 4 (Fall 1987) p. 52). The Bureau requested two insulation program inspectors in its 1987-88 budget, along with two additional inspectors for the home furnishings program. The latter two positions were funded in the budget, but the insulation program inspector positions were not. It is expected that the Bureau will again seek funding for insulation inspectors in the 1989-90 fiscal year budget.

In the meantime, the Bureau will continue to monitor compliance with insulation regulations as it has since the inception of the program in 1987. Occasionally, home furnishings inspectors will obtain insulation samples for testing, as will the thermal insulation program manager and the program's chemist.

As of March 1988, licensees under the insulation program numbered 147, generating \$300,000 in annual revenue for the Bureau through license fees and fees for listing in the certification directory.

Consumer Education. A new slide presentation entitled "Regulations for Upholstered Furniture and Mattress