The Senate Committee on Business, Professions and Economic Development (BP&ED) and the Assembly Committee on Business and Professions (B&P), collectively “the Committees”, will hold joint sunset review oversight hearings on March 18 and March 23 in Rooms 4202 and 4203 of the State Capitol starting at 9:00 a.m.

The Committees are the standing committees of the Legislature that have oversight jurisdiction over the Department of Consumer Affairs (Department) and all agencies and entities under the Department. The Committees also have oversight jurisdiction over other regulatory or certification programs within the Business and Professions Code. Each of these boards, bureaus, committees and programs (boards) currently license or certify specific professions and are responsible for implementing and enforcing the laws relating to these professions. It is the responsibility of the Committees to determine whether the State should continue to regulate in this area, and if so, what changes should be made to improve the overall effectiveness and efficiency of these entities to ensure that the interests of California’s consumers are protected against incompetent practice or illegal activities of these professionals.

The Board of Registered Nursing (Board) is scheduled to appear before the committees on March 23, 2015.

The following is a tentative outline of the agenda which is subject to change:

A. Board Presents Short “Overview” of the Current Regulatory Program (5 minutes)
B. Board Response to Issues, Problem Areas, Questions and Staff Recommendations (20 minutes)
C. Public Comment (15 minutes)
D. Comment by Professional Individuals, Groups or Associations (15 minutes)
E. Any Closing Comments by the Board (5 minutes)

Approximately two weeks prior to the date of the hearing, the Board will receive a “Background Paper” prepared by staff of the Committees for the hearing. This Paper provides background information concerning the issues Committee staff have raised for each individual board, and, where appropriate, staff recommendations to address those issues. The Background Paper will be given to each member of the Committees in advance of the hearing and will be available to the public on the Senate BP&ED Committee’s Website at the following link:

http://sbp.senate.ca.gov/informationalhearingagendaandbackground

Upon completion of the hearings, the board will have 30 days to submit a written response to all of the issues and recommendations raised by Committee staff in the Background Paper or during the hearing.

Certain recommendations may require legislation which would be included in a “Sunset Bill” for a particular board. It is anticipated that the Sunset Bills will be heard by the respective Committees sometime in April.