

Assembly Bill No. 2102

CHAPTER 420

An act to amend Section 2717 of, and to add Sections 2852.5, 3518.1, 3770.1, and 4506 to, the Business and Professions Code, relating to healing arts.

[Approved by Governor September 18, 2014. Filed with
Secretary of State September 18, 2014.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2102, Ting. Licensees: data collection.

Existing law requires the Board of Registered Nursing, the Physician Assistant Board, the Respiratory Care Board of California, and the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians of the State of California to regulate and oversee the practice of healing arts within their respective jurisdictions.

This bill would require these boards to collect and report specific demographic data relating to its licensees, subject to a licensee's discretion to report his or her race or ethnicity, to the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development. The bill would require these boards to collect this data at least biennially, at the times of both issuing an initial license and issuing a renewal license.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares the following:

(a) The Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development prepares an annual report to the Legislature on the gaps in the health care workforce in California.

(b) The Employment Development Department's Labor Market Information Division and state licensing boards share data with the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development.

(c) All regulatory boards collect information about their licensees through the licensing process.

(d) California's regulated health professions collect information that is often limited and not always regularly updated.

(e) The information collected is inconsistent among the various regulatory agencies using different definitions and categories.

(f) The collection of demographic data on certain allied health professions will allow for the consistent determination of geographic areas in the state where there are shortages of health care workers with cultural and linguistic competency.

SEC. 2. Section 2717 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

2717. (a) The board shall collect and analyze workforce data from its licensees for future workforce planning. The board may collect the data at the time of license renewal or from a scientifically selected random sample of its licensees. The board shall produce reports on the workforce data it collects, at a minimum, on a biennial basis. The board shall maintain the confidentiality of the information it receives from licensees under this section and shall only release information in an aggregate form that cannot be used to identify an individual. The workforce data collected by the board shall include, at a minimum, employment information such as hours of work, number of positions held, time spent in direct patient care, clinical practice area, type of employer, and work location. The data shall also include future work intentions, reasons for leaving or reentering nursing, job satisfaction ratings, and demographic data.

(b) Aggregate information collected pursuant to this section shall be placed on the board's Internet Web site.

(c) (1) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), the board shall collect, at least biennially, at the times of both issuing an initial license and issuing a renewal license, all of the following data on nurses licensed under this chapter:

(A) Location of practice, including city, county, and ZIP Code.

(B) Race or ethnicity, subject to paragraph (3).

(C) Gender.

(D) Languages spoken.

(E) Educational background.

(F) Classification of primary practice site among the types of practice sites specified by the board, including, but not limited to, clinic, hospital, managed care organization, or private practice.

(2) The board shall annually provide the data collected pursuant to paragraph (1) to the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development in a manner directed by the office that allows for inclusion of the data into the annual report required by Section 128052 of the Health and Safety Code.

(3) A licensee may, but is not required to, report his or her race or ethnicity to the board.

(d) The board is authorized to expend the sum of one hundred forty-five thousand dollars (\$145,000) from the Board of Registered Nursing Fund in the Professions and Vocations Fund for the purpose of implementing this section.

SEC. 3. Section 2852.5 is added to the Business and Professions Code, to read:

2852.5. (a) The board shall collect, at least biennially, at the times of both issuing an initial license and issuing a renewal license, all of the following data on vocational nurses licensed under this chapter:

(1) Location of practice, including city, county, and ZIP Code.

(2) Race or ethnicity, subject to subdivision (c).

(3) Gender.

(4) Languages spoken.

(5) Educational background.

(6) Classification of primary practice site among the types of practice sites specified by the board, including, but not limited to, clinic, hospital, managed care organization, or private practice.

(b) The board shall annually provide the data collected pursuant to subdivision (a) to the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development in a manner directed by the office that allows for inclusion of the data into the annual report required by Section 128052 of the Health and Safety Code.

(c) A licensee may, but is not required to, report his or her race or ethnicity to the board.

SEC. 4. Section 3518.1 is added to the Business and Professions Code, to read:

3518.1. (a) The board shall collect, at least biennially, at the times of both issuing an initial license and issuing a renewal license, all of the following data on physician assistants licensed under this chapter:

(1) Location of practice, including city, county, and ZIP Code.

(2) Race or ethnicity, subject to subdivision (c).

(3) Gender.

(4) Languages spoken.

(5) Educational background.

(6) Classification of primary practice site among the types of practice sites specified by the board, including, but not limited to, clinic, hospital, managed care organization, or private practice.

(b) The board shall annually provide the data collected pursuant to subdivision (a) to the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development in a manner directed by the office that allows for inclusion of the data into the annual report required by Section 128052 of the Health and Safety Code.

(c) A licensee may, but is not required to, report his or her race or ethnicity to the board.

SEC. 5. Section 3770.1 is added to the Business and Professions Code, to read:

3770.1. (a) The board shall collect, at least biennially, at the times of both issuing an initial license and issuing a renewal license, all of the following data on respiratory therapists licensed under this chapter:

(1) Location of practice, including city, county, and ZIP Code.

(2) Race or ethnicity, subject to subdivision (c).

(3) Gender.

(4) Languages spoken.

(5) Educational background.

(6) Classification of primary practice site among the types of practice sites specified by the board, including, but not limited to, clinic, hospital, managed care organization, or private practice.

(b) The board shall annually provide the data collected pursuant to subdivision (a) to the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development in a manner directed by the office that allows for inclusion of the data into the annual report required by Section 128052 of the Health and Safety Code.

(c) A licensee may, but is not required to, report his or her race or ethnicity to the board.

SEC. 6. Section 4506 is added to the Business and Professions Code, to read:

4506. (a) The board shall collect, at least biennially, at the times of both issuing an initial license and issuing a renewal license, all of the following data on psychiatric technicians licensed under this chapter:

- (1) Location of practice, including city, county, and ZIP Code.
- (2) Race or ethnicity, subject to subdivision (c).
- (3) Gender.
- (4) Languages spoken.
- (5) Educational background.

(6) Classification of primary practice site among the types of practice sites specified by the board, including, but not limited to, clinic, hospital, managed care organization, or private practice.

(b) The board shall annually provide the data collected pursuant to subdivision (a) to the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development in a manner directed by the office that allows for inclusion of the data into the annual report required by Section 128052 of the Health and Safety Code.

(c) A licensee may, but is not required to, report his or her race or ethnicity to the board.