

## Government Relations Update

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Well, the Sunset Review process continues and we continue to represent you. In these last few weeks, AB 178 and 179 have continued through the approval process. Here is where they stand:

As of right now, AB 179 has been passed by the Assembly (June 1) and ordered to the Senate, where it has been referred to committee/s and amended. It was passed by the Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee and has been re-referred to Committee on Appropriations (July 6).

This bill addresses the issues raised during Sunset Review and would extend the authority of the Dental Board until 2020, would limit the term of a Dental Assisting Council member to two terms, places a temporary moratorium on the Practical Exam and requires the DBC to conduct a review to determine whether a practical exam is necessary and increases fees.

AB178 is the emergency legislation proposed by the legislature and imposes a one-year moratorium on the RDA practical until such time as the Board and the State Office of Professional Examination Services (OPES) concludes a validating assessment called an Occupational Analysis. It does the same thing that AB 179 will do, but the intent was to get an immediate halt to the RDA Exam because of the fluctuating and high failure rate.

It was last heard by the Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee on June 29, where it was passed (7/0) and re-referred to Appropriations Committee. It is scheduled to be heard on July 13, right before they go on summer break.

The next Dental Board meeting is scheduled for August 27-28 (location still TBD) and we anticipate that the next regulatory language workshop will be held in conjunction with the Board meeting. We will keep you posted as to the topics for that workshop and the date.

The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Occupational Analysis Workshops will be held in the coming weeks and as we hear back, we'll report to you. The deadline for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Workshop is November 20<sup>th</sup>, so there's still time to submit your name to participate! Here's the link ([http://www.dbc.ca.gov/formspubs/rda\\_sme20150520.pdf](http://www.dbc.ca.gov/formspubs/rda_sme20150520.pdf)).

Your CDAA board is continuing to advocate for the profession of Dental Assisting. If you have any questions, comments or would like to actively participate in this process, contact me at [shellysorensencdaa@hotmail.com](mailto:shellysorensencdaa@hotmail.com)