



who knows from personal experience the problems and temptations which confront the professional engineer or land surveyor—particularly those who are in private practice or in a position of high public trust.”

Noting a Gallup Poll where “engineers take second place only to doctors in public conception of their honesty and ethical standards,” Atkinson wondered why “the Board of Registration would would want to lose this ready-made public relations advantage.” In conclusion, Mr. Atkinson assured the Board that there are many potential candidates with administrative and engineering skills who would make Board membership an easier and more enjoyable task.

In spite of such comments supporting continuation of the requirement, the Board voted 9-3 to repeal section 405(d). The repeal must next be approved by the Office of Administrative Law in order to become effective.

**Executive Director Search.** Also at the October 2 meeting, Board member Mackey reported that he had met with the Department of Consumer Affairs’ personnel analyst and selected approximately 47 of 186 applications for further review. Mr. Mackey stated that he and fellow Board member Paul subsequently selected 25 applications for Board members to individually rank.

At the November 20 meeting, Board member Reid moved that the Board invite the nine most preferred applicants to interview at the Board’s January 22 meeting. Member Paul, however, questioned whether some of the applicants would be available. Member Mackey contended that each of the final 25 should be invited to interview. Reid’s motion passed unamended.

## LEGISLATION:

**AB 1861 (Waters)**, which would have prohibited counties from charging land surveyors fees for examining Records of Survey submitted for approval, failed passage in the Assembly on January 28.

Numerous other two-year bills, reported in CRLR Vol. 7, No. 4 (Fall 1987) at pp. 65-66, have also died early in the 1988 session. Those measures include *SB 617 (Greene)*, *SB 1387 (Montoya)*, *SB 1653 (Seymour)*, *AB 1739 (Bradley)*, and *AB 1873 (Ferguson)*.

**AB 1860 (Waters)**, which would provide a definition for mining and mineral engineers under the Professional Engineers Act, passed the Assembly on January 28. (See CRLR Vol. 7, No. 4 (Fall 1987) p. 65 for background information.)

## FUTURE MEETINGS:

April 8 in Sacramento.

## BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING

*Executive Officer: Catherine Puri (916) 322-3350*

The Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) licenses qualified RNs, certifies qualified nurse midwifery applicants, establishes accreditation requirements for California nursing schools and reviews nursing school curricula. A major Board responsibility involves taking disciplinary action against licensed RNs.

The nine-member Board consists of three public members, three registered nurses actively engaged in patient care, one licensed RN administrator of a nursing service, one nurse educator and one licensed physician. All serve four-year terms.

The Board is financed by licensing fees, and receives no allocation from the general fund. The Board is currently staffed by 56 people.

## MAJOR PROJECTS:

**Mobile Intensive Care Nurses.** In the fall issue of the *Reporter*, it was erroneously reported that the proposed Emergency Medical Services (EMS) regulations concerning the scope of practice, education, and approval of mobile intensive care nurses had been submitted to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for review. (See CRLR Vol. 7, No. 4 (Fall 1987) p. 66.)

Because EMS received an overwhelming influx of negative comments on the proposed regulations in the last days of the 45-day public comment period, it encountered difficulties in its efforts to complete the necessary response to each comment in preparing the rulemaking file. As of this writing, EMS is still in the process of responding to comments and preparing the rulemaking file for submission to OAL.

**Low Passage Rates on Licensure Exam.** At its November meeting, the Board asked the Education Committee to study low passage rates on the licensure exam. The Committee is to identify schools with consistent licensing examination failure rates exceeding 20% and determine a plan to assist them in raising passage rates in the coming year.

## LEGISLATION:

**AB 87 (Agnos)** contains numerous provisions about AIDS, AIDS-related complex (ARC), and human immuno-

deficiency virus (HIV) testing. Of direct import to nurses are provisions which would authorize, with the patient’s consent, disclosure to health care providers of the fact that a patient is HIV-positive. The Board supported this bill last session and will watch for any changes now that its author is no longer in the Assembly. (Former Assemblymember Art Agnos is the newly-elected mayor of San Francisco.)

## RECENT MEETINGS:

At the Board’s November 19-20 meeting in San Francisco, the Education Committee was given approval to hold its 1988 Education Conference for nursing faculty in conjunction with the BRN meeting scheduled for September 22. (See CRLR Vol. 7, No. 4 (Fall 1987) p. 67.) The conference will be held on September 23-24. The purpose of holding the education conference immediately before a Board meeting is to facilitate Board member participation in the conference, as well as attendance at the Board meeting by nursing educators.

The Board reevaluated its policy on use of state facilities for Board meetings and voted to hold future meetings in hotel conference rooms instead. The Board has experienced problems with guaranteed reservations of meeting rooms; lack of consistent quality in available sound systems; lack of sufficient space; high cost of parking; and transportation costs to downtown areas where state buildings are located. This policy change will result in an additional cost of \$7,260 for the first year.

Also at the November meeting, the Board modified its system for handling probationary violations to include the option of having the probationer meet with the Diversion-Discipline Committee. This modification would be utilized when the violation is minor and the Nursing Education Consultant (NEC) determines that the probationer’s behavior or attitude may be positively affected by a meeting with the Committee.

The Diversion-Discipline Committee will develop regulations for implementation of a citation system for violations of the Nursing Practice Act, pursuant to Business and Professions Code sections 125.9 and 125.95, the Department of Consumer Affairs’ citation and fine authority added by SB 2335 (Montoya), which became effective in 1987.

## FUTURE MEETINGS:

March 24-25 in Sacramento.  
May 19-20 in San Diego.