

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA – DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD  
INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS**

Hearing Date: December 3, 2007

Subject Matter of Proposed Regulations: Filing of Applications and Eligibility for Examination

Section Affected: Title 16, California Code of Regulations, Sections 109 and 116

**Specific Purpose of the Regulation**

**§ 109 – Filing of Applications**

The existing regulation sets forth the candidate application process for an architect license in California.

In June 2007, the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) held its annual meeting in Denver, Colorado. A resolution was approved to require candidates to fulfill all requirements for eligibility established by his or her jurisdiction in addition to enrolling in NCARB's Intern Development Program (IDP) by establishing a Council Record prior to taking the national Architect Registration Examination (ARE).

On August 30, 2007, member boards were notified by NCARB that boards are now responsible for both verifying that the candidate has met the jurisdictions' eligibility requirements and that the candidate has established an IDP Council Record. Amending section 109 will give the Board the authority to require candidates to comply with the requirement NCARB has established due to the approval of the resolution at the annual meeting.

**§ 116 – Eligibility for Examination**

The existing regulation sets forth the eligibility requirements for examination.

In June 2007, the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) held its annual meeting in Denver, Colorado. A resolution was approved to require candidates to fulfill all requirements for eligibility established by his or her jurisdiction in addition to enrolling in NCARB's IDP by establishing a Council Record prior to taking the national ARE.

On August 30, 2007, member boards were notified by NCARB that boards are now responsible for both verifying that the candidate has met the jurisdictions' eligibility requirements and that the candidate has established an IDP Council Record. Amending section 116 will give the Board the authority to include the establishment of an NCARB Council Record as an eligibility requirement prior to taking the ARE.

## **Factual Basis/Rationale**

The California Architects Board (Board) is mandated to protect the public health, safety, and welfare by ensuring that only those individuals possessing entry-level competence are granted licensure as architects in California. Consequently, prior to becoming licensed as an architect, a candidate must successfully complete a written examination and the Board-developed California Supplemental Examination (CSE) and provide evidence of at least eight years of education and/or work experience in architecture or a related field as evaluated by the Board. California currently utilizes the national written examination, the ARE, which is developed by NCARB.

In addition to passing both the ARE and CSE, California candidates are required to fulfill the Board's structured internship requirement, which is comprised of IDP developed by NCARB and the Board's Comprehensive Intern Development Program (CIDP). These components are completed concurrently. Currently, candidates may enroll in IDP after completion of three years of education equivalents. The amendments to these regulations will ensure candidates enroll in IDP no later than five years.

## **Underlying Data**

NCARB *Fast Facts*, Volume 11, Issue 11

## **Business Impact**

The proposed regulatory action will not have a significant adverse economic impact directly affecting business, including the ability of California businesses to compete with business in other states, because it affects only candidates for examination and licensure.

## **Specific Technologies or Equipment**

This proposed regulatory action does not mandate the use of specific technologies or equipment.

## **Consideration of Alternatives**

No reasonable alternative to the regulation would be either more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed or would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private person that the proposed regulations.