

CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD

INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS

Hearing Date: June 23, 2014

Subject Matter of Proposed Regulations: National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) Record

Section Affected: Title 16, California Code of Regulations (CCR), Section 116

Specific Purpose of each adoption, amendment, or repeal:

§ 116 – Eligibility for Examination

1. Problem being addressed: Candidates will not be able to schedule or take the Architect Registration Examination (ARE), nor access any information relative to their examination without possession of an active NCARB Record.
2. Anticipated benefits from this regulatory action: This proposal would align the requirements for examination eligibility specified in regulation with the national standard and ensure candidates are able to schedule and take the ARE as well as view and receive results and updates regarding their examination validity.

Factual Basis/Rationale

The Board is mandated to protect the public health, safety, and welfare, and like other regulatory programs under the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA), is authorized to establish eligibility requirements for applicants of a professional license.

The ARE is the national architectural examination throughout the United States (US), and is required of applicants to receive licensure in all US jurisdictions. NCARB, the organization that develops and administers the ARE, has moved content and candidate management providers and as has created a new examination portal within candidates NCARB Records. This portal is now the only method in which candidates schedule appointments and access their examination information, such as prior examinations, rolling clock dates, and score reports. Consequently, candidates are required to possess an active NCARB Record to access examination information.

If the Board does not adopt this regulation, candidates will be unaware that they must possess an active NCARB Record to schedule tests, obtain results, and view and receive updates regarding their examination validity.

Underlying Data

The Board relied on the following documents in its proposal:

1. ARE Guidelines, August 2013 edition

Business Impact

This regulation 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 architect applicants.

Economic Impact Assessment

This regulatory proposal will have the following effects:

- It will not create or eliminate jobs within the State of California because it only affects the examination eligibility of architect applicants, and the effect is insufficient to create or eliminate jobs.
- It will not create new business or eliminate existing businesses within the State of California because it only affects architect applicants who are not yet licensed to practice architecture, and there is no indication that any businesses will be affected.
- It will not affect the expansion of businesses currently doing business within the State of California because it only affects architect applicants who are not yet licensed to practice architecture, and there is no indication that any businesses will be affected.
- This regulatory proposal does not affect the health and welfare of California residents because the proposed regulations only affects architect applicants' examination eligibility.
- This regulatory proposal does not affect worker safety because it is not related to worker safety in any manner.
- This regulatory proposal does not affect the state's environment because it is not related to the environment in any manner.

Specific Technologies or Equipment

This regulation does not mandate the use of specific technologies or equipment.

Consideration of Alternatives

No reasonable alternative to the regulatory proposal would be either more effective in

carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed or would be as effective or less burdensome to affected private persons and equally effective in achieving the purposes of the regulation in a manner that ensures full compliance with the law being implemented or made specific.