



MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, February 26, 2026
12:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Friday, February 27, 2026
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

(Or Until Conclusion of Business)

Huntington Memorial Hospital
100 W. California Blvd
Pasadena, CA 91105
Braun Auditorium
(626) 397-5000

Via WebEx:

[View Additional Meeting Information \(Materials, Webcasts, etc.\)](#)

*Action may be taken on any item listed on the agenda.
Meeting times and order of agenda items are subject to change.
Please see last page for information on public participation.*

Thursday, February 26, 2026

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Establishment of a Quorum
2. Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda
Note: The Board may not discuss or take action on any matter raised during this public comment section, except to decide whether to place the matter on the agenda of a future meeting [Government Code sections 11125, 111257(a)].
3. [Approval of Minutes from the December 4-5, 2025, Quarterly Board Meeting](#)
4. President's Report, including notable accomplishments and priorities, and communications with interested parties – Kristina D. Lawson, J.D.
5. [Presentation: A Regulator's Perspective on Artificial Intelligence \(AI\) in Healthcare – Frank Meyers, J.D., Director, Regulatory Innovation & Member Services, Federation of State Medical Boards](#)
6. Executive Management Reports
 - A. [Technology Updates – Sean Eichelkraut](#)
 - B. [Licensing Program Summary, including personnel, statistics and licensing unit update – Douglas Hock](#)
 - C. [Enforcement Program Summary, including personnel, expert reviewer program, statistics, and enforcement unit updates – Sharlene Smith](#)

Kristina D. Lawson, J.D.

President

Felix C. Yip, M.D.

Vice President

Veling W. Tsai, M.D.

Secretary

Jacob Arkatov, J.D.

Irving Ayala-Rodriguez, M.D.

Anni Chung

Claire Holmes

Asif Mahmood, M.D.

Luis R. Portillo

Trinidad Solis, M.D.

Richard E. Thorp, M.D.

Gerald Tolbert, M.D.

Marina Torres, J.D.

Eserick "TJ" Watkins

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- D. [Administrative Summary, including budget, strategic plan, and personnel – Reji Varghese](#)
- 7. [Discussion on Maternal Mortality Data and Outcomes – Sharlene Smith](#)
- 8. [Discussion on December 17, 2025, Joint Forum on Controlled Substances and Medications for Opioid Use Disorder Access – Reji Varghese](#)
- 9. [Discussion and Possible Action on Legislation – Aaron Bone](#)
 - A. [AB 408 \(Berman\) Physician Health and Wellness Program](#)
 - B. [AB 967 \(Valencia\) Physicians and Surgeons: Licensure: Expedite Fee](#)
 - C. [AB 1558 \(Arambula\) Uniform Emergency Volunteer Health Practitioners Act](#)
 - D. [AB 1587 \(Ta\) Prescription Drugs for Life-Threatening Conditions](#)
 - E. [AB 1598 \(Quirk-Silva\) Behavioral Sciences](#)
 - F. [AB 1637 \(Caloza\) Physicians and Surgeons: Medical Records](#)
 - G. [Proposed Trailer Bill Language on Menopause Coverage](#)
 - H. [SB 626 \(Smallwood-Cuevas\) Perinatal Health Screenings and Treatment](#)
 - I. [SB 849 \(Weber Pierson\) Physicians and Surgeons: Sexual Misconduct and Offenses: Revocation of Certificate](#)
 - J. [SB 903 \(Padilla\) Mental Health Professionals: Artificial Intelligence](#)
 - K. [SB 1002 \(Niello\) Out-of-state Physicians and Surgeons: Telehealth: License Exemption](#)

Recess

Friday, February 27, 2026

- 10. Call to Order/Roll Call/Establishment of a Quorum
- 11. Updates from External Stakeholders
 - A. Update from the Department of Consumer Affairs – Lucia Saldivar
 - B. [Update for the Health Quality Investigation Unit – Stephanie Whitley](#)
- 12. [Discussion and Possible Action Related to the Midwifery Advisory Council \(MAC\), including a Report from the Last MAC Meeting, and Approval of Agenda Items for the Next MAC Meeting – Madeleine Wisner, L.M.](#)
- 13. [Presentation on the Licensed Midwifery Fund – Marina O'Connor](#)
- 14. Update from the Physician Assistant Board – Veling Tsai, M.D.
- 15. [Discussion and Possible Action on Recommendations from the Special Faculty Permit Review Committee – Irving Ayala-Rodriguez, M.D.](#)
- 16. [Presentation on the Role of the Department of Consumer Affairs' Health Quality Investigation Unit in the Board's Enforcement Process – Stephanie Whitley](#)
- 17. Presentation on the Role of the Attorney General Office's Health Quality Enforcement Unit in the Board's Enforcement Process – Gloria Castro, J.D., Senior Assistant Attorney General
- 18. Future Agenda Items
- 19. Adjournment

Public Participation

The meeting is accessible to the public via Webex. A link to the WebEx Event and [instructions on how to connect](#) will be added to the Medical Board of California's (Board) website approximately one week prior to the meeting date.

During Agenda Item **2** – Public Comments on Items not on the Agenda, the Board has limited the total public comment period to forty minutes. Therefore, after forty minutes, no further comments will be accepted. Each person will be limited to three minutes per agenda item.

During public comment on any other agenda item, a total of twenty minutes will be allowed for comments, apportioned between those participating in-person and those participating remotely. After twenty minutes, no further comments will be accepted. Each person will be limited to three minutes per agenda item.

The public is also welcome to submit comments in writing pertaining to any agenda item that may be considered by the Board members. Please submit written comments by Wednesday, February 18, 2026, via our [contact form](#).

Meetings of the Medical Board of California are open to the public except when specifically noticed otherwise in accordance with the Open Meeting Act. The audience will be given appropriate opportunities to comment on any issue presented in open session before the Board, but the president may apportion available time among those who wish to speak. For additional information, call (916) 263-2389.

NOTICE: The meeting is accessible to the physically disabled. A person who needs a disability-related accommodation or modification in order to participate in the meeting may make a request by contacting Angelaya Strother at (916) 263-2318 or via our [contact form](#). Providing your request at least five business days before the meeting will help ensure availability of the requested accommodation.

The mission of the Medical Board of California is to protect healthcare consumers and prevent harm through the proper licensing and regulation of physicians and surgeons and certain allied healthcare professionals and through the vigorous, objective enforcement of the Medical Practice Act, and to promote access to quality medical care through the Board's licensing, policy, and regulatory functions.
