REQUESTED ACTION:
After review and consideration of the proposed amendments to the approved postgraduate training regulatory language, make a motion to direct staff to proceed with preparing the necessary regulatory documents to submit to the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) and the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency (BCSH) for approval, prior to submitting the documents to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) to formally notice the proposed regulatory language, and to schedule a hearing on the rulemaking to amend Title 16, Division 13, Chapter 1, Article 6, California Code of Regulations (CCR), section 1321.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS:
At the January 31, 2013 Licensing Committee meeting, Board staff presented to the Committee Members changes in accredited postgraduate training programs that the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) and the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC) had implemented with the creation of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education-International (ACGME-I) and the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada-International (RCI) accreditation programs. In addition, the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) accredited postgraduate training programs are now starting the accreditation process through ACGME. Board staff has also learned family medicine residency programs in Canada are now accredited by the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC).

The Licensing Committee Members requested staff to monitor the changes in postgraduate training accreditation and report to the Board when amendments to CCR section 1321 would be necessary. Board staff is now recommending amendments to CCR section 1321 to clarify the issues regarding ACGME, ACGME-I, RCPSC, RCI, AOA and now CFPC. Board staff are receiving questions from applicants and potential applicants regarding these different postgraduate training programs and which programs the Board recognizes. The proposed amendments to CCR section 1321 will clarify that only ACGME, RCPSC, CFPC family medicine accredited programs and AOA/ACGME pre-accredited programs in the United States and/or its territories, and Canada are approved to meet the minimum requirements for postgraduate training for a California physician’s and surgeon’s license.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:
Staff recommends the Board approve the proposed regulatory language, and authorize staff to proceed with preparing the necessary regulatory documents to submit to DCA and BCSH for approval, prior to sending the documents to OAL to formally notice proposed amendments to CCR section 1321, and to schedule a regulatory hearing at a future Board meeting.
PROPOSED REGULATORY LANGUAGE:

Underlined Indicates proposed amendments or additions to the existing regulation
Strikeout Indicates proposed deletions to the existing regulation.

Amend Section 1321, Chapter 1, Article 6, Division 13, of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations to read as follows:

§ 1321. Approved Postgraduate Training.

(a) Postgraduate training programs located in the United States and/or its territories, or in Canada that are accredited by meeting the standards of the Accreditation Council on Graduate Medical Education, or the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, and family medicine postgraduate training in Canada accredited by the College of Family Physicians of Canada shall be approved for the postgraduate training specified in Sections 2065, 2066, 2096, 2102, and 2103 of the code.

(b) A current list of such programs shall be maintained on file in the Sacramento office of the division. Postgraduate training programs located in the United States and/or its territories accredited by the American Osteopathic Association that have received initial/pre-accreditation status by the Accreditation Council on Graduate Medical Education shall be approved for the postgraduate training specified in Sections 2065, 2066, 2096, 2102, and 2103 of the code.

(c) An applicant shall have been formally admitted to any postgraduate training program which is completed in order to qualify for licensure as a physician and surgeon. As used in this section, "formally admitted" means the applicant has met the program's requirements for admission to the programs.

(d) An applicant shall have completed one continuous year of approved postgraduate training in a single program in order to qualify for licensure as a physician and surgeon. The one year may be interrupted in cases due to illness or hardship. With respect to an applicant who qualifies for licensure by completing at least two years of approved postgraduate training, the second year shall be one continuous year in a single program, which may be the same or a different program than the first year. The second year may be interrupted in cases due to illness or hardship.