



California Board of Accountancy
2450 Venture Oaks Way, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95833

phone: (916) 263-3680 fax: (916) 263-3675 web: www.cba.ca.gov



NEWS RELEASE

Date: October 16, 2024

Contact: Outreach@cba.ca.gov

GOVERNOR SIGNS LEGISLATION EXTENDING AUTHORITY OF THE CALIFORNIA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

SACRAMENTO – Governor Gavin Newsom signed Assembly Bill (AB) 3251 into law on September 25, 2024. This critical legislation extends the California Board of Accountancy’s (CBA) sunset date from January 1, 2025, to January 1, 2029, authorizing the CBA to continue its essential work in protecting California consumers and regulating the state’s accounting profession.

“We are thrilled that AB 3251 has been signed into law,” said CBA President Joseph Rosenbaum, CPA. “This legislation not only ensures the CBA can continue its important role in protecting consumers but also brings valuable improvements to how we operate, keeping our framework strong and relevant.”

The bill, authored by Assembly Business and Professions Committee Chair Marc Berman (D-Palo Alto), is the culmination of the CBA’s sunset review, a legislative process that happens every four years and serves to confirm the CBA is operating in a manner that aligns with its consumer protection mandate. Sunset review provides the opportunity for the legislature to take an intensive look at a board’s activities over the previous four years as a check that it is carrying out its mission effectively.

In addition to extending the CBA’s authority, AB 3251 incorporates several important statutory changes that enhance the CBA’s efficiency, including:

- Enhanced peer review documentation access: California accounting firms must opt in to share peer review data through the American Institute of CPAs’ web tool, improving the CBA’s access to essential peer review information for monitoring purposes.
- Responsibility for attest engagements by ownership: Accounting firm ownership lacking attest experience assumes full responsibility during CBA investigations and must provide working papers to the signing licensee if no longer employed by the firm.

AB 3251’s passage completes this sunset review cycle for the CBA and allows the CBA to continue its work of protecting the public and regulating the largest group of licensed accounting professionals in the nation. You can view the full text of the bill [here](#).

#

Created by statute in 1901, the CBA's mandate requires that protection of the public shall be its highest priority in exercising licensing, regulatory, and disciplinary functions. The CBA currently regulates more than 115,000 licensees, the largest group of licensed accounting professionals in the nation, including individuals, partnerships, and corporations.

Subscribe to CBA [E-News](#) or follow us on social media at the icons below to receive links to the digital edition of UPDATE and the latest information on CBA programs and activities.

