



April 8, 2015

The Honorable Marc Levine
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 4153
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 1374 (LEVINE) – PSYCHOLOGISTS: LICENSURE: REQUIREMENTS
AS AMENDED ON APRIL 6, 2015
- SPONSOR & SUPPORT**

Dear Assemblymember Levine:

The California Board of Psychology (Board) is sponsoring and **SUPPORTS AB 1374**, which will make the Board's receipt of application forms more efficient and remove the requirement of a "fee" to establish psychological service.

Business and Professions Code section 2914(c) currently states that verification of experience (VOE) forms be submitted to the Board by the applicant's supervisor. This has the result of the Board storing large quantities of VOEs that have not had the remaining parts of the licensing application submitted by the applicant. This creates a storage problem and generates extra workload as it becomes necessary to combine applications for licensure with the previously submitted VOE Forms. The result of this legislative change will be VOE Forms arriving with the rest of the licensing application. This will save storage space at the Board and reduce the time staff takes to locate and combine the various pieces of the application, thus reducing licensing timeframes.

Business and Professions Code section 2903, 2909, 2910, and 2913 define the practice of psychology as only occurring when a fee is charged for services. This means that volunteer, pro-bono, or free services could fall outside of a licensee's insurance, and as a result, disincentivize volunteer pro-bono work by licensed psychologists, making payment rather than services provided central to what constitutes the practice of psychology. The primary function of the Board is consumer protection and a consumer should be in no doubt that the psychological services he or she is receiving fall under the Board's jurisdiction

The Board's mission is to advance quality psychological services for Californians by ensuring ethical and legal practice and supporting the evolution of the profession.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the Board's Executive Officer, Antonette Sorrick, at (916) 574-7113. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Erickson".

MICHAEL ERICKSON, PH.D.
President, Board of Psychology