

July 20, 2017

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
Governor
State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1456 (Low) – Professional Licensure – Request for Signature

Dear Governor Brown:

The Board of Psychology (Board) is pleased to support AB 1456 (Low) and requests that you sign AB 1456 when it reaches your desk.

Existing law prohibits the licensure requirements for professional personnel, including psychologists, marriage and family therapists, clinical social workers, and professional clinical counselors, in the state and other governmental health facilities licensed by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) or Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), or operated by the Department of State Hospitals (DSH) or California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) from being less than for those professional personnel in health facilities under private ownership. These departments can waive that requirement for persons in the profession of psychology who are gaining qualifying experience towards licensure, but these waivers vary from three (3) to five (5) years depending on the type of exempt setting in which the individual is employed or contracted. This bill would instead make the maximum licensure exemption for all exempt settings (5) years.

The Board believes that it is good policy to bring conformity to the various licensure exemption provisions as this would diminish confusion for both exempt setting employers and their employees, and the public.

For this reason, the Board asks that you sign AB 1456. 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,



STEPHEN C. PHILLIPS, JD, PsyD
President, Board of Psychology

cc: Assembly Member Low
Camille Wagner, Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Office of the Governor