



california pharmacists association

October 16, 2019

Mr. Greg Lippe
Acting President
California Board of Pharmacy 2720
Gateway Oaks Blvd, Ste. 100
Sacramento, CA 95833

Dear President Lippe,

The California Pharmacists Association (CPhA) is disappointed by the Board of Pharmacy's action taken Friday, October 11th regarding the California Practice Standards and Jurisprudence Exam (CPJE) for pharmacists.

The charge of the Board of Pharmacy is to protect and promote the health and safety of Californians by pursuing the highest quality of pharmacist's care and the appropriate use of pharmaceuticals through education, communication, licensing, legislation, regulation, and enforcement. However, the broad and over- reaching action taken by the Board last week does not support the Board's mission. By further delaying the licensure of otherwise qualified and ethical pharmacists to provide the highest quality pharmacists' care, the Board is shirking its responsibility to the consumers of California.

These pharmacists are being denied their due process. Pharmacists from accredited pharmacy programs in California, from programs around the country, licensed pharmacists practicing in other states relocating to California, and international graduates are being penalized for the actions of a few, without providing any evidence of wrongdoing. These pharmacists have completed their exam ethically and otherwise satisfied the other requirements for licensure. Many of these pharmacists have had their opportunities to serve the patients of California revoked by employers due to the delay in the licensure process. These employers sought these pharmacists to serve and heal patients in our state and will now no longer be able to do so without the skilled pharmacists in this cohort.

CPhA urges the Board to reconsider its decision and release the exam scores of the current cohort, and appropriately license those who have passing scores. As the Board continues its investigation, anyone found to be in violation of state law and/or regulations should be appropriately disciplined. This may include being issued cease and desist orders and/or revocation of their license. This appropriate course of action would allow pharmacists who completed their exam ethically and satisfied all other requirements for licensure to receive their license and serve the patients in California, while appropriately punishing those who committed any sort of offense.

CPhA looks forward to working with the Board on this situation and recognizes the unfortunate circumstances that this has created for the pharmacists and consumers in California. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or my staff member, Danny Martinez, at (916) 779-1400.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JR Roth', written over a light gray circular stamp.

Jon R. Roth, MS, CAE
Chief Executive Officer

Cc: The Honorable Toni G. Atkins, Senate President pro Tempore
The Honorable Anthony Rendon, Speaker of the Assembly
The Honorable Evan Low, Chair, Assembly Committee on Business & Professions
The Honorable Steven M. Glazer, Chair, Senate Committee on Business, Professions & Economic Development
Kim Kirchmeyer, Director, California Department of Consumer Affairs