On March 4, 2020, the Governor proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in California as a result of the impacts of COVID-19 to make additional resources available, formalize emergency actions already underway across multiple state agencies and departments, and help the state prepare to respond to an increasing number of individuals requiring medical care and hospitalization as a result of a broader spread of COVID-19.

Pursuant to the Governor’s Executive Order N-39-20, during the State of Emergency, the Director of the California Department of Consumer Affairs may waive any statutory or regulatory professional licensing requirements pertaining to individuals licensed pursuant to Division 2 of the Business and Professions Code (the Code), including hearing aid dispensers.

Accordingly, for individuals whose temporary licenses expire between January 1, 2021, and February 28, 2021, the Director waives Business and Professions Code section 2538.27, subdivision (b) to the extent it prohibits such licensees from being licensed for more than one year, subject to the following conditions:

- Such temporary licenses shall be valid for 18 months from the date of issuance and are not renewable; and,
- Such temporary licenses shall automatically terminate upon issuance of a license prior to expiration of the 18-month period.

For individuals whose trainee licenses were renewed twice and expire between January 1, 2021, and February 28, 2021, the Director waives Business and Professions Code section 2538.28, subdivision (c) to the extent it prohibits such licensees from being licensed for more than six months, subject to the condition that such renewed trainee licenses shall be valid for 12 months.

This order is effective immediately but may be amended as circumstances require.

Dated: December 15, 2020
Kimberly Kirchmeyer
Director