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December 24, 2009

TO: PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS, CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS, AND THE MEDICAL BOARD OF
CALIFORNIA

SUBJECT: CHANGE IN THE DEFINITION OF LICENTIATE OF THE HEALING
ARTS TO INCLUDE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS

Effective January 1, 2010, the definition of licentiate of the healing arts, for the purposes of a California Supervisor and Operator Fluoroscopy permit, will include a physician assistant who is licensed pursuant to the Physician Assistant Practice Act and who practices under the supervision of a qualified physician and surgeon. As a result of the passage of Assembly Bill (AB) 356, Chapter 434, Statutes of 2009, the definition of licentiate of the healing arts has changed. Additionally, there are other provisions that have been adopted as a result of the passage of this bill.

More specifically, AB 356 amended sections 107110, 114850, and 114980 of the California Health and Safety Code and added section 114872. These sections include provisions allowing for the issuance of a California Supervisor and Operator Fluoroscopy permit to a physician assistant, along with provisions specifying initial permit educational requirements for first-time applicants and continuing education requirements for permit holders. The bill authorizes the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) to charge applicants a fee in an amount sufficient, but not greater than the amount required, to cover costs incurred by CDPH in implementing AB 356. Implementation of AB 356 will require adoption of regulations, which will take approximately three years.

For more information about the provisions of AB 356, please go to the following Web site: <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/statute.html>, enter the chapter number (434) and the chapter year (2009), then click on "Search" for a complete version of the bill that was signed into law.

The following Web site provides information about the most recent updates pertaining to this information notice: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/radquip/pages/PA-fluoroscopy.aspx>.