

Introduced by Senator UmbergFebruary 3, 2025

An act to amend Section 6140 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to attorneys.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 253, as introduced, Umberg. State Bar of California: annual license fee.

Existing law, the State Bar Act, provides for the licensure and regulation of attorneys by the State Bar of California, a public corporation governed by a board of trustees. Existing law, until January 1, 2026, requires the board to fix the annual licensee fee for active licensees for 2025 at a sum not exceeding \$400.

This bill, until January 1, 2027, would instead require the board to fix the annual license fee for active licensees for 2026 at a sum not exceeding an unspecified amount.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 6140 of the Business and Professions
- 2 Code is amended to read:
- 3 6140. (a) The board shall fix the annual license fee for active
- 4 licensees for ~~2025~~ 2026 at a sum not exceeding ~~four hundred~~
- 5 ~~dollars (\$400)~~. ____ (\$ ____).
- 6 (b) The annual license fee for active licensees is payable on or
- 7 before the date set by the State Bar, which shall not be less than
- 8 12 months from the prior year's due date. Individuals who qualify

- 1 for a waiver pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 6141.1 shall
2 be permitted to pay fees on an installment basis, with interest and
3 other costs directly associated with the use of an installment plan,
4 in the manner determined by the State Bar. Additionally, if the
5 board finds it appropriate and feasible, it may provide by rule for
6 payment of fees on an installment basis with interest, by credit
7 card, or by other means, and may charge licensees choosing any
8 alternative method of payment an additional fee to defray costs
9 incurred by that election.
- 10 (c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, ~~2026~~,
11 2027, and as of that date is repealed.