

BOG LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Meeting Notes

February 22, 2019

Governors present by phone: President-Elect Rajeev Majumdar, Gov. Brian Tollefson, Gov. Carla Higginson, Gov. Kim Hunter, Chair Kyle Sciuchetti, Gov. Dan Clark, Gov. Chris Meserve

Staff present by phone: Sanjay Walvekar, Sara Niegowski, Paula Littlewood

Chair Sciuchetti began the meeting at 4:08 p.m.

Action taken: Motion to approve 2/15 minutes made by Gov. Tollefson. Seconded by Gov. Hunter. Motion passes.

Sanjay updated the BLC on the bar request bill ([SB 5003](#)).

- SB 5003 passed the Senate unanimously on 2/20. The bill has been referred to the House Civil Rights & Judiciary Committee.

Sanjay updated the BLC re: [HB 1788](#).

- Sanjay provides recap of public testimony on Tuesday and committee action today. The [proposed substitute bill](#) moved out of the House Civil Rights & Judiciary Committee with a unanimous vote (15-0). The bill is now in the House Rules Committee.
- Public testimony indicates the Chief Justice is supportive of the proposed substitute bill. Discussion around whether the support is in response to potential Constitutional challenges or will circumvent the Court's structures work group process.
- Discussion of what WSBA members expect from the Board of Governors regarding information about the bill and potential disenfranchisement of members. Committee agrees that the full Board of Governors should consider.
- Committee discusses implications of repealing the State Bar Act. Chair Sciuchetti requests a list of "non-State Bar Act" rules and procedures governing the Bar Association. Sanjay will provide the committee.
- Discussion of the bill's timing during the legislative session and whether the bill should be considered by the BOG on the regular March meeting agenda or during an earlier special meeting.

- Chair Sciuchetti suggests keeping time on the March 7th agenda as it's still before the March 13th House cutoff date.
- Governor Meserve and Chair Sciuchetti express concern about taking a position on the bill.
- Governor Higginson suggests informing membership of the bill. WSBA staff will include bill information and update in the next TakeNote.
- Discussion around calling a special meeting before the regular March BOG meeting to discuss this issue. Chair Sciuchetti will discuss with President Pickett.
- BOG will be notified of this issue within 24 hours of this meeting via emailed draft meeting minutes.
- Potential for BLC meeting on March 7th rather than March 8th, given the BOG's scheduled March meeting.

Sanjay updated the BLC re: [SB 5129/ HB 1343](#). The bill is in the Senate Ways & Means Committee.

Chair Sciuchetti concluded the meeting at 4:49 p.m.