

LIMITED PRACTICE BOARD
c/o WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
1325 FOURTH AVENUE, SUITE 600
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98101

May 17, 2023

WSBA Board of Governors
1325 Fourth Ave., Suite 600
Seattle, WA 98101

VIA EMAIL to: barleaders@wsba.org

Re: Reject "free" deskbooks proposal

Dear Governors:

This letter is being submitted on behalf of the Limited Practice Board, which represents the 1,015 active Limited Practice Officers. The board unanimously opposes the proposal for "free" deskbooks to all members of the WSBA. This proposal will increase dues for Limited Practice Officers in perpetuity with no corresponding benefit to them, as they do not use the deskbooks.

According to the Board of Governors May 19-20, 2023 meeting materials, Page 256: "The total estimated cost for implementation in year 1 is approximately \$915,500. Future ongoing costs begin at a base of \$608,232, however it is reasonable to expect a rise in costs each year between 2 to 4%." With 41,985 WSBA members, of which 33,597 are active members¹, the first year projected cost of \$915,000, divided by 41,985, is **\$21.79 per member**.

The WSBA budget contains a projected deficit by FY 2026 of <\$1,738,180> with no reserves left to draw upon.² This would require a dues increase of **\$41.40 per member** just to balance the budget *and before* paying for the free deskbooks. This is not acceptable to the LPOs.

We strongly urge the Board of Governors to reject this proposal as fiscally unsound and unworkable, and with no benefit to at least 1,015 of your members.

Very truly yours,

LIMITED PRACTICE BOARD


Carla J. Higginson

Chair, Liaison Committee
CJH/tbm

cc: Bill Ronhaar, President, Limited Practice Board

¹See WSBA Member Demographic Report 2/2/23, Board of Governors March 3-4, 2023 meeting materials

²See fiscal projections for FY 2023-FY 2026, Board of Governors March 3-4, 2023 meeting materials