## **MEMO**

TO:

**BOARD OF GOVERNORS** 

FROM:

**BOG GOVERNANCE WORK GROUP** 

RE:

WORK GROUP MEETING OF MAY 19, 2015

The BOG Governance Work Group met on May 19, 2015, in follow up to the BOG meeting In Spokane on April 24, 2015. The meeting was for the purpose of reviewing the discussion that took place at the April BOG meeting regarding the "Organization and Selection of the Board of Governors: Issues and Recommendations" contained in the Governance Task Force Report and Recommendations, and in particular to Section 3 dealing with "Non-attorney Membership and Selection." A discussion also took place regarding voting rights of public members that will be followed up on at this meeting. Some concern was raised at the April BOG meeting regarding ensuring diversity of public member seats, should they be approved. The WSBA's Diversity Policies are included in these materials for the Board's information.

The Work Group then reviewed the next subject for discussion by the BOG dealing with the Governance Task Force's recommendation regarding the State Bar. This item is also on the agenda for this BOG meeting.

## **Enclosures:**

- "Non-Attorney Membership and Selection" excerpt from Governance Task Force Report and Recommendations
- WSBA Diversity Policies
- "State Bar Act: Issues and Recommendations" excerpt from Governance Task Force Report and Recommendations
- State Bar Act
- Governance Task Force Report and Recommendations

## 3. Non-attorney Membership and Selection

Task Force Recommendation: Two public, non-attorney members and one LPO / LLLT member should be added to the Board of Governors. These three members should be appointed by the Supreme Court.

**Draft Response to Recommendation**: Recognizing the WSBA's responsibility to protect the public and further cognizant of best practices followed by other bar associations, the BOG agrees with the Task Force recommendation that three public members should be chosen for service on the BOG. Public members will be chosen from a group of candidates from the general public and limited license professionals who apply for service. Applicants for these positions will be vetted by the existing Nomination Review Committee with input from the limited license professionals. The Nomination Review Committee will then forward names to the BOG for review. The BOG will then submit nominations to the Supreme Court for appointment.