

BOG LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes: *March 21, 2016*

Members present: Phil Brady, Mario Cava, Sean Davis, Keith Black, Elijah Forde, Bill Hyslop

Staff present: Jean McElroy, Alison Grazzini, Mike Shaw

SUMMARY OF ACTION TAKEN

Item Discussed	Bill Number	Vote	Comments
Meeting minutes	N/A	Approve 3/7 meeting minutes	No objections Moved: Gov. Black Seconded: Gov. Davis

Legislative report

Special session

- Alison reported that the 30-day special session began the evening of March 10 and is scheduled to end April 8.
- Budget negotiations are ongoing and a deal has yet to be reached. A sticking point is K-12 teacher salaries. The House and Senate continue to hold pro forma floor sessions, but no recent hearings regarding the budget have occurred.
- The Senate Law and Justice Committee held another Department of Corrections investigation update last Wednesday, March 16. The Senate has exhausted funds allotted to continue and there are reports that Davis Wright Tremaine may not recoup the funds owed for work already completed. The investigation is ongoing.

Bills

- Alison reported that the WSBA-request bill, SB 6205, is awaiting a signature by Gov. Inslee. Alison spoke with the Governor's policy staff this morning and there are no concerns with this bill being signed into law. It may happen next week as the Governor is planning to start signing bills, possibly, as early as the end of this week.
- Alison also shared that other bills awaiting the Governor's signature include ESSB 5635 (uniform power of attorney act) and ESSB 5029 (fiduciary access to digital assets act). These bills should be signed within the week, per Governor's policy staff.

King Co. Bar Association's Legal Financial Obligation Resolution

- Gov. Brady began the discussion regarding the proposal by the King County Bar Association (KCBA) to request that the WSBA support their resolution regarding legal financial obligations.
- Gov. Hyslop explained that the KCBA sent him an email requesting that the WSBA support their resolution and the goals contained in the resolution for LFO reform.
- Alison and Mike explained how LFO reform has been an ongoing issue before the Legislature in the form of HB 1390 and SB 6640. Neither of these bills has reached final passage. Sticking points include prioritizing restitution, the interest rate accrual, and defendants who are indigent making it a hardship to pay in the first place.
- Alison reported that the WSBA Council on Public Defense (CPD) is also working on a policy statement regarding LFO reform. CPD will finalize at their April 1, 2016 meeting and send to the BLC for review/approval when ready.
- Gov. Hyslop requested that the BLC wait for CPD to make their recommendation to BLC as it may be different than the KCBA resolution including longer-term LFO reform goals.
- Gov. Brady concurred with Gov. Hyslop to wait for CPD.
- Gov. Black requested that the WSBA respond to KCBA telling them we have received their request to support the LFO reform resolution, that the BLC deliberated, and that we will be waiting for CPD's recommendation before taking action.
- BLC members concurred.

Gov. Black made a motion for the meeting to adjourn; seconded by Gov. Cava; no objections. Meeting adjourned by Gov. Brady at 4:33pm on March 21, 2016.