

Legislative Review Committee Volunteer Position Description

The WSBA Legislative Review Committee reviews internal legislative proposals and makes recommendation for sponsorship or support to the Board of Governors (BOG). The Committee's primary purpose is to ensure that WSBA-request legislation fulfills General Rule (GR) 12 and is vetted both internally and externally. The Committee may also consider non-WSBA proposals seeking WSBA input and support. Depending on the makeup of the Committee, it may also be able to provide technical support to sections in drafting of bills where appropriate. WSBA-request bills approved by the BOG are introduced in the upcoming legislative session.

Position overview: Committee members engage in and during a crucial point in WSBA's outreach and legislative affairs efforts. Members review Bar-request materials to ensure the requests fulfill GR 12 and are vetted both internally and externally. Members engage in discussions regarding request-bills with the bill drafter(s) and appropriate subject matter experts. Members then vote to recommend the BOG support, sponsor, etc. the request bill. This process is repeated for each Bar-request bill every year. The Committee's work is intensely time sensitive as it needs to complete its mandatory annual training/primer and review/discussion of all Bar-request bills by November, in order for the BOG to vote on the request bill during their November meeting, which is necessary for the request bill to continue moving through the legislative process before the legislative session starts in early January. Appointment is for a one-year term. Members may apply to be reappointed for a total of six terms.

Time commitment: New members are required to attend the Committee's annual training/legislative primer (a 2-3 hour commitment); all members are expected to attend all meetings for which they are available. Meetings are conducted electronically where possible. Failure to attend the training or meetings are grounds for non-reappointment. In addition, members are expected to read the materials prior to each meeting and be prepared to ask questions. The number and length of meetings is dependent upon the number of Bar-request bills the WSBA is asked to address. It is estimated that each Bar-request bill requires one Committee meeting lasting 1-3 hours with 1-3 hours of preparation.

Requirements: All active WSBA members are eligible to apply.

Preferred qualifications and skills: An interest in the legislative process and a dedication to serving the public and the WSBA membership regarding the practice of law and administration of justice.

Benefits: Members build and develop legislative understanding and skills, collaborative skills, and networking opportunities.

Reimbursement policy: This is an unpaid volunteer position. Members are eligible for reimbursement of appropriate expenses under WSBA's committee volunteer reimbursement policy.

Selection and appointment process: Candidates are vetted by a team including the committee chair, staff liaison and BOG liaison. Recommendations are made to the Board of Governor's Nominations Committee, which makes the appointments.

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For further information: See <https://www.wsba.org/connect-serve/committees-boards-other-groups/legislative-committee/wsba-legislative-review-committee>

How to apply: See instructions at www.wsba.org/joincommittee. Questions about the application? Email barleaders@wsba.org.