BOG LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
February 15, 2019

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

Chair Sciuicchetti began the meeting at 4:13 p.m.

Action taken: Motion to approve 2/8 minutes made by Gov. Clark. Seconded by Gov. Higginson. Motion passes. President-Elect Majumdar abstains.

Sanjay updated the BLC on the bar request bill (SB 5003).
  - SB 5003 is in Senate Rules.

Sanjay updated the BLC on session progress.
  - Civil Rights Law may be interested in supporting SB 5165
  - Sanjay provided update re: SB 5129/HB 1343.
  - Sanjay provided update re: HB 1489/SB 5575.
  - Sanjay provided update re: SB 5513/HB 1515.
    - It was suggested by Gov. Hunter that the bill is referred to Criminal Law and Solo and Small Practice sections. Sanjay will send bill referrals to those sections.
  - Sanjay was asked about a section’s potential position or testimony being brought before the BLC before approval. He gave examples of the types of controversial or politically-sensitive bills that would be brought to the BLC. Testimony provided by sections always includes disclaimer language that the testimony it is not representative of the WSBA as a whole or its Board of Governors.

Sanjay updated the BLC re: HB 1788.
  - The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) is working on a proposed substitute bill, which would be a pared-down version of HB 1788. This substitute bill would likely pass out of the House Civil Rights and Judiciary Committee by 2/22. Sanjay does not have the text of the bill,
but will pass it on to the BLC when he has it. A public hearing on the substitute bill is scheduled for Tuesday, 2/19.

- Conversation among the BLC regarding the AOC’s relationship with the WA Supreme Court and potential conflicts or issues with the Bar Structure work group.
- Sanjay informed the committee that he would touch base with the AOC’s lobbyist and pass along the details of that conversation and the full text of the bill when he had it to the committee.

Chair Sciuchetti concluded the meeting at 4:38 p.m.