COUNCIL OF THE SECTION OF LEGAL EDUCATION AND ADMISSIONS TO THE BAR

Resolution

Encouraging Cooperation in Creating an Efficient System for Tracking Bar Examination Passage Rates for all Law School Graduates

WHEREAS, the American Bar Association Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar is responsible for assuring that law schools maintain a program of legal education that prepares their graduates for admission to the bar and the effective and responsible participation in the legal profession and has codified that responsibility in Standard 301 for the Approval of Law Schools; and

WHEREAS, one of the measures of a law school’s program of legal education is the bar passage rates of its graduates; and

WHEREAS, under the ABA Standards for Approval of Law Schools, law schools are required to track graduates in multiple jurisdictions and repeat takers of the bar examination in the same or multiple jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, the cooperation and assistance of state bar admissions offices in monitoring and reporting law school graduates’ bar exam outcomes would greatly assist law schools in meeting their requirements under the ABA Standards and, thereby, protect and serve the interests of law school graduates and the public without the imposition of undue burdens on their work;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar urges the highest court of each state and territory to work with their bar admissions offices, the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar, and the National Conference of Bar Examiners to assure that law schools can receive information about the bar exam outcomes for all graduates from that law school, including, at a minimum, the names of the graduates who sat for the examination in their jurisdiction and the bar examination results for each of those graduates.

The Council of the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar adopted this Resolution in its function as the accrediting agency for J.D. programs in the United States. In this role, the Council is separate and independent of the American Bar Association. This Resolution has not been reviewed by the ABA Board of Governors or the ABA House of Delegates and accordingly, should not be construed as representing the policy of the American Bar Association.