Summary of Actions of the ABA House of Delegates related to Legal Education and the Council Meeting in Chicago in August 2018:

At the 2018 ABA Annual Meeting in Chicago, which concluded Aug. 7, the ABA House of Delegates concurred with four resolutions proposed by the Council of the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar. The resolutions involve changes in the ABA Standards and Rules of Procedure for Approval of Law Schools. The four resolutions concurred by the House were:

- Two related resolutions 111A and 111B, both of which enable the Council immediately to restructure the work of the ABA accreditation process by eliminating the Council’s Accreditation and Standards Review Committees, and having all work completed by the Council.

- Resolution 111C, which allows the Council to amend Rules 3, 5, 10, 14, 22, 23, 24, 25, 34, 52, and 53 of the ABA Standards and Rules of Procedure for Approval of Law Schools.

- Resolution 111E, which amends Standard 303 (Curriculum); Standard 304 (Simulation Courses, Clinics, and Field Placements); Standard 305 (Other Academic Study); Standard 306 (Distance Education); Standard 307 (Studies, Activities, and Field Placements Outside the United States); and Standard 601 (Library and Information Resources, General Provisions) of the ABA Standards and Rules of Procedure for Approval of Law Schools.

Resolution 111D, which would have amended Standards 501 (Admission) and 503 (Admission Test) of the ABA Standards and Rules of Procedure for Approval of Law Schools, was withdrawn.

Under the procedures of the Council, the House can concur with the Council’s recommendation or return it with or without recommendation. The Council can then send it back to the House again for concurrence. The final decision, however, for a change in standards and rules and procedures rests with the Council.

Prior to the House meeting, the Council met in open session on Friday, Aug. 3, to consider regular business, reports and other issues. No votes were taken. The Council’s open session agenda, including reports and memorandums, can be found here.

In closed session during this meeting, the Council considered individual school matters. The outcomes of those matters that are not subject to the confidentiality provisions of Rules of Procedure 49-55 will be publicly reported after decisions are communicated by letter to the affected schools.

Media seeking further information, please contact Bill Choyke in the ABA Division of Communications and Media Relations at bill.choyke@americanbar.org or (202) 662-1864.