

-----Original Message-----

From: Janine Small [<mailto:js@janinesmall.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, May 03, 2016 11:08 PM

To: [CHAIRCHAT16@MAIL.AMERICANBAR.ORG](mailto:CHAIRCHAT16@MAIL.AMERICANBAR.ORG); ABA Issues Paper Comments

Cc: 'Leonard Glickman'; 'Richard Idell'; Simmons, Carol; Ken Freundlich ([ken@freundlichlaw.com](mailto:ken@freundlichlaw.com)); Peter Dekom

Subject: RE: ABA Commission on the Future of Legal Services - Issues Paper on Alternative Business Structures/Comments Requested

On behalf of the Forum on the Entertainment and Sports Law Industries, I would like to re-iterate the concerns of Michael Drumke. These issues have potentially serious implications and we need more time to review and comment.

Thanks, Janine

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Section, Division, and Forum Sections for FY16

> [<mailto:CHAIRCHAT16@MAIL.AMERICANBAR.ORG>] On Behalf Of Michael Drumke

> Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2016 9:17 PM

> To: [CHAIRCHAT16@MAIL.AMERICANBAR.ORG](mailto:CHAIRCHAT16@MAIL.AMERICANBAR.ORG)

> Subject: FW: ABA Commission on the Future of Legal Services - Issues

> Paper on Alternative Business Structures/Comments Requested

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> FYI.

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> From: Michael Drumke

> Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2016 7:53 PM

> To: 'IPcomments@americanbar.org' <[IPcomments@americanbar.org](mailto:IPcomments@americanbar.org)>

> Subject: FW: ABA Commission on the Future of Legal Services - Issues

> Paper

> on Alternative Business Structures/Comments Requested

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> To The Commission,

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> Speaking only as a concerned leader in the Association, I don't think this proposal is particularly helpful for the ABA or the profession. I am concerned that like Rocket Lawyer, this proposal will result in lawyers once again questioning why the ABA is adopting practices and policies that its members oppose or have opposed in the past. The ABA is in the midst of a membership crisis (36,000 lawyer members dropped per the last SCOM report) which is creating a severe financial strain (I serve as the SOC Liaison to the BOG Finance Committee) which will inevitably dictate cuts in service to our members which will cause us to continue to bleed members. I do not think that this particular proposal helps us in that regard.

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> While the stated goals might be laudable, I think the ABA continues to push dues paying members away with the executive decisions we make and the policies we adopt. Goal 1 of the Association is service to our members. We should give our members enough time to review and respond to sweeping proposals for change particularly when they have been rejected in the past as this one has. A comment period of only 21 days on something this significant is problematic and sends a clear message that comments are not particularly welcomed by the Commission. ABA Sections, Division and Forums must

vet matters like this through their Councils. I assume that State and Local bars must go through a similar process. Responding to a 16-page report like this on short notice is not an easy thing for SOC entities, State or Local bars to do. I would encourage the Commission to extend the deadline for comments to this proposal so that all interested parties can respond in a thorough and thoughtful manner.

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> Thank you.

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> Michael W. Drumke

> Chair, Section Officers Conference

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> Michael W. Drumke

> Swanson, Martin & Bell, LLP

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