

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
OFFICE

AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

Governmental Affairs Office

740 Fifteenth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005-1022
(202) 662-1760
FAX: (202) 662-1762

DIRECTOR
Robert D. Evans
(202) 662-1765
rdevans@staff.abanet.org

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DEPUTY DIRECTOR
Denise A. Cardman
(202) 662-1761
cardmand@staff.abanet.org

The Honorable James T. Walsh
U.S. House of Representatives
2369 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

SENIOR LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL
R. Larson Frisby
(202) 662-1098
frisbyr@staff.abanet.org

Lillian B. Gaskin
(202) 662-1768
gaskinl@staff.abanet.org

Dear Representative Walsh:

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL
Kristi Gaines
(202) 662-1763
gainesk@staff.abanet.org

On Tuesday, June 20, the Appropriations Committee will consider the Science, State, Justice, and Commerce (SSJC) funding bill. Representative David Obey (D-WI), ranking member on the Appropriations Committee, plans to offer an amendment to restore \$25 million in funding for the Legal Services Corporation.

Kenneth J. Goldsmith
(202) 662-1789
goldsmithk@staff.abanet.org

The American Bar Association urges you to support the Obey LSC amendment during tomorrow's markup.

Kerry M. Lawrence
(202) 662-1766
lawrenck@staff.abanet.org

Ellen McBarnette
(202) 662-1767
mcbarnee@staff.abanet.org

As you know, the Subcommittee cut LSC's funding by \$13 million from the FY 06 level of \$326 million to \$313 million. The Obey amendment would merely bring LSC's funding back up to the \$338 million LSC received in FY 2003. The offsets are from non-controversial administrative accounts from a cross section of other agencies funded in the bill.

E. Bruce Nicholson
(202) 662-1769
nicholsonb@staff.abanet.org

DIRECTOR GRASSROOTS
OPERATIONS/LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL
Julie M. Strandlie
(202) 662-1764
strandlj@staff.abanet.org

There is widespread, bipartisan support and an overwhelming need for adequate funding for LSC. More than 160 Members of the House of Representatives wrote the SSJC Subcommittee to request a funding increase for LSC. In addition, the entire Oregon Delegation submitted its own letter, and other Members sent individual letters. Copies of the Delahunt/Ramstad bipartisan letter and ABA President Michael S. Greco's letter to the Subcommittee in support of LSC funding are attached.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
LAW CONSULTANT
Hayden Gregory
(202) 662-1772
gregoryh@staff.abanet.org

STATE LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL
Rita C. Aguilar
(202) 662-1780
aguilarr@staff.abanet.org

Thank you very much for your consideration. Please contact Julie Strandlie at (202) 662-1764 or jstrandlie@staff.abanet.org in the ABA's Governmental Affairs Office should you have any questions or need additional information.

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
Julie Pasatiempo
(202) 662-1776
jpasatiempo@staff.abanet.org

Sincerely,

STAFF DIRECTOR FOR
INFORMATION SERVICES
Sharon Greene
(202) 662-1014
greenes@staff.abanet.org



Robert D. Evans

EDITOR WASHINGTON LETTER
Rhonda J. McMillion
(202) 662-1017

Note: A personalized copy of this letter was sent to all Members of the House Appropriations Committee.