

Issue 12, April 12, 2016

Will the State Bar of California Deunify by 2019?

It's the biggest state bar, it operates very differently from most (or all) others, and its history – including recent history – has been full of twists and turns. Will the State Bar of California split into two separate organizations, one to handle the regulatory function and the other to serve as more of a trade association for lawyers? That's a proposal by a nonlawyer member of the bar's board of trustees. [The Recorder](#) takes a comprehensive look at the deunification question and what's at stake.



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Legal Incubators: State Bar of Georgia Launches, State Bar of Texas in the Works

The trend toward bar-sponsored “incubator” programs for new lawyers continues to pick up steam, as one state bar debuts its project and another announces its plans. In [Georgia](#), seven lawyers started work last Monday at the state bar's new Lawyers for Equal Justice, which also has a pro bono requirement for participants – and a pro bono director. Meanwhile, in [Texas](#), the state bar president blogged that over the next year, the bar will launch an incubator and will also encourage metro bars and law schools in their own efforts.

February Multistate Bar Exam Average Score is Lowest in 33 Years

The National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE) has some bad news regarding the average score on February's MBE: It dropped 1.2 points from last year, which makes it the lowest February score since 1983. Is this an aberration or part of a larger downward trend? And is there a significant difference between February scores and from July? The [ABA Journal](#) shares an analysis from the president of the NCBE.

ARAG's New Direct-to-Consumer Legal Insurance: Can it Help Close the Gap?

Last Thursday, the insurance company ARAG launched two new direct-to-consumer plans -one basic, and the other with some extras- that work much like health insurance and are available in every state except Alaska. Prepaid legal insurance is offered as a benefit by some employers – can offering it direct to the consumer help close the gap in access to legal service...and in a way that doesn't cut lawyers out of the loop? At his [LawSites blog](#), Robert Ambrogi gives a closer look at the new service – and his take on that “closing the gap” question.

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