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ABA Advocates for Student Loan Relief

The Latest on Student Loan Debt: ABA House Resolution, Other Key Steps

Young lawyers and others with student loan debt achieved a victory earlier this month, when the ABA House of Delegates passed a resolution to urge Congress to amend the U.S. bankruptcy code. The change called for in Resolution 512, which passed at the 2021 ABA Annual Meeting, is to no longer require proof of "undue hardship" for student loan debt to be discharged in bankruptcy. [Reuters](#) takes an in-depth look at ways the ABA (urged by its Young Lawyers Division) has focused on student loan debt over the past year, and the effects that debt has had on many young lawyers' life decisions, such as marriage, family, and home ownership.

State Bar of California: When Working at Home, Safeguard Information from Curious Family Members, Devices

If you have Alexa or another such device at home, you know how it (or she) can become almost like a member of the family—one who is always listening. That's a real problem when lawyers work from home, according to the State Bar of California, which recently released a draft opinion that clarifies that lawyers working remotely must abide by the same rules of professional conduct that apply in an office, including the duty to protect client information. Along with disabling any Alexa-like devices, what specific steps does the bar recommend to help make a remote work environment as secure as possible? Find out at [Reuters](#).

LegalZoom Applies for Alternative Business Structure License in Arizona

LegalZoom, a company that many more traditionalist lawyers and regulators have been watching with some trepidation, has applied for an alternative business structure license in Arizona. In its application, which is currently under review, the company says that its objectives for its first year as an Arizona ABS are to: launch innovative low-cost small business solutions for Arizona small businesses, fulfill attorney-led trademark needs for small businesses throughout the U.S., and provide access to attorneys for small business and estate planning advice and legal services through a monthly membership plan. Could LegalZoom also join competitor RocketLawyer in the Utah sandbox, and what other big steps has the company taken recently? Learn more at [ABA Journal](#).

Recent Research: Ongoing Pandemic Erodes Workers' Mental Health

While remote work has proven more feasible and even beneficial than many people expected, it has not had a healing effect on workers' mental health, according to recent research. In fact, 44 percent of workers say they feel fatigued on the job, compared with 34 percent in 2020, and 31 percent of U.S. employers say workforce mental health is having a severe or significant financial impact on their company (up from 20 percent in 2020). Statistics regarding substance misuse or addiction are similarly grim, if not more so. What's going on? As COVID-19 persists much longer than expected, people are coping with more and more loss and isolation at the same time that the opioid crisis has gotten worse.

An article at [Axios](#) shares how managers can help open up discussions about mental health as a priority in the workplace.

Effective, Affordable Board Training: Board Catalyst Shorts Available at Reduced Rate, Plus Enjoy a Second Free Preview

Once again, the ABA Division for Bar Services is pleased to offer access to the Board Catalyst Shorts at a reduced rate of \$80 through August 31, 2022. The Shorts are a series of eight training videos you can share with your board members. Each video is 5-12 minutes long and gives a practical perspective from past bar presidents and executive directors on foundational board topics, like how to be a great board member and aspects of fiduciary duty. For a limited time, here is a [complimentary preview](#) of the second video in the series. Purchase access to all eight videos [here](#).



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