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Issue 405 | November 13

Utah Weighs Bar Exam Alternative for Law Grads

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Utah may become the latest state to approve an alternative to the traditional bar exam. Last week, the Utah Supreme Court released a plan to allow graduates of ABA-accredited law schools to practice in the state after completing 240 hours of work under the supervision of an experienced attorney, along with a few other requirements. The working group tasked with examining alternatives cited the bar exam's high cost, racial disparities in results, and criticism of the exam's ineffectiveness as reasons for exploring an alternative path. The group told [Reuters](#) that they hope for approval by next summer.

Texas Supreme Court Delays New Rules for Licensed Legal Paraprofessionals

The Supreme Court of Texas has postponed the anticipated December 1 effective date for new rules on licensed legal paraprofessionals and licensed court-access assistants. This delay allows the court to thoroughly review feedback received during the public comment period. A new effective date will be set by further order of the court. The proposal, drafted in August of this year, would allow for licensed legal paraprofessionals and court-access assistants to represent low-income residents in a limited fashion in the areas of family law, estate and probate law, and consumer debt law. Read the full order at the [Texas Bar Blog](#).

Helping Executives Evaluate New Revenue Ideas

A recent ASAE study highlighted challenges faced by association leaders in innovating and developing new revenue streams. Many executives report that limited bandwidth and legacy structures hinder their ability to focus on new initiatives. Challenges fall into three areas: strategic (balancing mission with innovation), cultural (structures not geared toward experimentation), and tactical (lack of development processes). In response, McKinley Advisors created the "New Revenue Opportunities: Evaluation Rubric" to help associations assess ideas by scoring them on strategic alignment, culture, and tactical feasibility. Check out the tool at the [McKinley Advisors](#) website.

Questions about Membership Dues? Consult the 2024 ABA Benchmarks Report

Is your bar considering changing its dues structure or reviewing its member benefits package? Be sure to consult the [2024 ABA Bar Benchmarks Report](#). This annual report contains extensive data from bars of all sizes on dues changes, membership rates, and unique member benefits to help you evaluate potential changes. [Purchase](#) your copy today.

Election 2024: A Letter from ABA President William R. Bay

In a [letter](#) co-signed by current and former American Bar Association leaders, ABA President William R. Bay emphasizes the vital role of free and fair elections in upholding democracy, expressing gratitude for both voter participation, and the diligent work of election officials to ensure secure, accurate results. The ABA, representing the legal profession, reaffirms its commitment to defending the Constitution, the rule of law, and trust in the electoral process, urging all to join in preserving these democratic values. Read the message at the [ABA website](#).



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