ABA POLICIES ON FEDERAL COURT FUNDING

August 2013

RESOLVED, That the American Bar Association urges all federal, state, territorial, and local legislative bodies and governmental agencies to adopt laws and policies that ensure full and adequate court funding.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the American Bar Association adopts the Principles for Judicial Administration (and commentary), dated August 2013 and recommends it as appropriate guidance for those states desiring to establish principles for judicial administration in their efforts to restructure court services and secure adequate court funding.

February 2013

RESOLVED, That the American Bar Association urges federal elected officials, as they consider deficit reduction for fiscal year 2013 and beyond, to maintain the ability of individuals, as well as business and other organizations, to have access to justice by assuring that (1) the federal courts receive funding adequate to permit them to perform their constitutional functions effectively and efficiently, and (2) the Legal Services Corporation receives funding to meet the needs of our country’s most vulnerable individuals who are eligible for services provided by the nation’s legal service providers.

August 2004

RESOLVED, The American Bar Association urges Congress and the Administration to fund the Federal Judiciary, recognizing competing fiscal demands, at levels sufficient to enable the Courts to fulfill their separate Constitutional and statutory duties; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, That in order to avert a funding crisis in Fiscal Year 2005, at a minimum the Federal Judiciary should be provided appropriations sufficient to maintain their current level of services in order to avoid further staff and operational cutbacks at a time when court workload continues to grow.

In addition, the ABA has policies supporting legislation introduced in the 109th Congress to provide rent relief from the excessive rents charged to the federal judiciary by the General Services Administration (August 2006) and policies supporting funding for federal court facility construction projects (August 1998, April 1999).