2014-2015 STATE BAR OF TEXAS

Legislative Timetable

Approved by the Board of Directors, January 2014

Pursuant to the policy governing legislative actions by the State Bar of Texas, the following timetable has been submitted for approval by the board of directors. This timetable is offered to sections that plan to propose legislation during the 2015 session of the Texas Legislature.

2014

January 24: The State Bar Board of Directors votes on the State Bar of Texas Legislative Timetable.

February 6: Copies of the legislative timetable and legislative policy are sent to all section chairs. Board of Directors Policy Manual 8.01.08(C).

March 3: Notice is sent to all section chairs regarding the **July 1** deadline for submission of proposed legislation to the board of directors for the 2015 State Bar Legislative Program. ***Proposals must be in final bill form and must include the information as set out in 8.01.06(C)(1-6) of the State Bar of Texas Legislative Policy as follows:***

(1) A brief narrative explanation of the legislation.
(2) Identification of, reference to, or copies of similar legislation, if any, proposed to or being considered by the same legislative or administrative body.
(3) A verification that all sections and committees of the State Bar have been sent the legislation for comment and the comments received (copy of form letter and copy of return receipt from each committee and section).
(4) A statement indicating whether the proposed legislation had been introduced in either the House or Senate during prior legislative sessions, as well as a statement of any amendments proposed to the proposed legislation during the prior legislative sessions and the status of the proposed legislation.
(5) A statement of the known position on the legislative proposal taken by any section or committee of the State Bar that has considered the same proposal, including the principal reasons for support of or opposition to the proposal.

(6) Such other information as the Executive Director may reasonably request from time to time.

April: Legislative timetable is published in the *Texas Bar Journal*. 8.01.08(D).

July 2: Deadline for submission of proposed legislation for inclusion in the bar's legislative program. *All proposals must be in final bill form and must contain the information outlined in 8.01.06(C)(1-6) of the Legislative Policy* or the proposal will not be considered for inclusion in the State Bar's legislative program. **Proposals may only be submitted by sections and not by committees of the State Bar.** Committees wishing to submit proposals must do so through a section of the State Bar having cognizance of the subject matter of the proposed legislation. Sections may submit proposals for inclusion in the State Bar's legislative program or to be sponsored in the section's own name. **Proposals must have been distributed to all other sections and committees of the State Bar for comment.** Proposals also should be mailed to other parties and entities that have a direct interest in the subject matter of the proposal, along with an invitation to comment. Comments received should be forwarded with proposals at this time. **8.01.06(A)(1)—at least 45 days before the Legislative Policy Subcommittee meeting.**

July: Notice published in the *Texas Bar Journal* setting out the time, date, and place that legislative proposals will be considered by the Legislative Policy Subcommittee, together with a brief summary of each proposal. 8.01.08(B).

August 7: Executive Director prepares and forwards each member of the Legislative Policy Subcommittee a copy of each item of proposed legislation, together with the explanatory material required by 8.01.08(G) of the Legislative Policy. 8.01.08(G)—not less than 14 days before the Legislative Policy Subcommittee meeting.

August 11: Deadline for filing written objections to any legislative proposals to be considered by the Legislative Policy Subcommittee. Objections must be filed in order to appear in opposition before the committee. If no objection is timely filed, the Legislative Policy Subcommittee will enter a position of "no objection" on the proposals being considered. 8.01.06(D)—not less than 10 days before the Legislative Policy Subcommittee meeting.

August 21-22: Meeting of the Legislative Policy Subcommittee to consider proposed legislation that has been properly submitted.

September 2: Appeal deadline for any proponent whose legislative proposal is not recommended by the Legislative Policy Subcommittee for inclusion in the State Bar's legislative program and who wishes to appeal to the Board of Directors by giving written notice to the Executive Director. 8.01.06(I)—within 10 days after the date of action.

September 4 (Tentative): Second meeting of the Legislative Policy Subcommittee.

September 5: Report of the Legislative Policy Subcommittee and copies of legislative proposals sent to the Board of Directors. 8.01.08(H)—not less than 14 days before the board meeting.

September 15 (Tentative): Deadline for appeal from decision (if any) made at second Legislative Policy Subcommittee meeting. 8.01.06(I)—within 10 days after the date of action.

September 19: Board of Directors Meeting—consider recommendations of the Legislative Policy Subcommittee and adopt the 2015 Legislative Program of the State Bar of Texas.

November 10: Pre-filing of bills begins.

November 14: Deadline for sections sponsoring legislative proposals to submit to the Director of Governmental Relations a suggested **list of legislative sponsors** for each proposal. 8.01.09(E)—not less than 60 days before the Texas Legislature convenes in regular session.

2015

January 13: 84th Legislative Session begins.

June 1: 84th Legislative Session ends. TBJ