

# AGENDA ITEM

118 SEPT 13 2014

**DATE:** September 4, 2014

**TO:** Members, Board Committee on Operations  
Members, Board of Trustees

**FROM:** Joseph L. Dunn, Chief Executive Officer  
Saul Bercovitch, Legislative Counsel

**SUBJECT:** State Bar Recognition Award – Assembly Member Donald P. Wagner

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Agenda Item proposes that the Board of Trustees bestow upon Assembly Member Donald P. Wagner a State Bar Recognition Award, honoring his dedication to the State Bar, the protection of California citizens, the legal profession, and the principle of access to justice for all.

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## BACKGROUND

The State Bar greatly appreciates the hard work and dedication of the entire Legislature, and on occasion provides special recognition to an individual member of the Legislature as a result of his or her particular dedication to the work of the State Bar and its mission. This Agenda Item proposes that the Board of Trustees bestow upon Assembly Member Donald P. Wagner a State Bar Recognition Award.

## DISCUSSION

Protection of the public is the State Bar's highest priority in the exercise of its licensing, regulatory, and disciplinary functions. (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 6001.1.) In addition to its specific regulatory charges, the State Bar's Board of Trustees is authorized to "aid in all matters pertaining to the advancement of the science of jurisprudence or to the improvement of the administration of justice, including, but not by way of limitation, all matters that may advance the professional interests of the members of the State Bar and such matters as concern the relations of the bar with the public." (Bus. & Prof. Code, § 6031, subd. (a).) The State Bar Act also notes the significance of issues relating to access to justice (See, e.g., Bus. & Prof. Code, §§ 6033 and 6073), and the State Bar has a keen interest those issues.

Assembly Member Wagner is an attorney, first elected to the Assembly in 2010. Among his other assignments, he serves as Vice-Chair of the Assembly Judiciary Committee. The work of the State Bar (as well as its various Sections, Committees and Commissions) benefits tremendously from dedicated members of the Legislature such as Assembly Member Wagner. Bestowing a State Bar Recognition Award would honor and recognize his particular dedication to the State Bar, the protection of California citizens, the legal profession, and the principle of access to justice for all.

**FISCAL / PERSONNEL IMPACT:**

None

**RULE AMENDMENTS:**

None

**BOARD BOOK IMPACT:**

None

**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that a State Bar Recognition Award be bestowed upon Assembly Member Donald P. Wagner, honoring his dedication to the State Bar, the protection of California citizens, the legal profession, and the principle of access to justice for all.

**PROPOSED BOARD COMMITTEE RESOLUTION:**

Should the Board Committee on Operations agree with the above recommendation, the following resolution would be appropriate:

**RESOLVED**, that the Board Committee on Operations recommends that the Board bestow upon Assembly Member Donald P. Wagner a State Bar Recognition Award, honoring his dedication to the State Bar, the protection of California citizens, the legal profession, and the principle of access to justice for all.

**PROPOSED BOARD OF TRUSTEES RESOLUTION:**

Should the Board concur with the Board Committee on Operation's recommendation, the following resolutions would be in order:

**RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Board Committee on Operations, the Board hereby bestows upon Assembly Member Donald P. Wagner a State Bar Recognition Award, honoring his dedication to the State Bar, the protection of California citizens, the legal profession, and the principle of access to justice for all.