

AGENDA ITEM

III B. September 29 2014

DATE: September 29, 2014

TO: Members, Board Executive Committee

FROM: Thomas A. Miller, General Counsel
Dina E. Goldman, Supervising Sr. Asst. General Counsel

SUBJECT: Task Force on Admissions Regulation Reform (TFARR) –
Authorize Extension

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Task Force on Admissions Regulation Reform (TFARR) was originally created by the Board of Trustees in April of 2012 to examine whether a new set of training requirements focusing on competency and professionalism should be adopted in California in order to better prepare new lawyers for successful transition into law practice. In October of 2013, the Board of Trustees re-authorized TFARR to engage in a second phase of activities focused on developing rules for the implementation of its Phase I recommendations. Under Board policy, a special committee created by the Board automatically ceases to exist upon completion of its assignment and is deemed dissolved at the Annual Meeting following its creation unless re-authorized by the Board. TFARR is nearing completing of Phase II of its work. The Task Force met on September 16, 2014, but needs further time to finalize its recommendations for the Board of Trustees. This item seeks Board approval to re-authorize and extend the term of TFARR until the end of the Board's November meeting to allow the Task Force to complete its work.

BACKGROUND

The Task Force on Admissions Regulation Reform (TFARR) was originally created by the Board of Trustees in April of 2013 to examine whether a new set of training requirements focusing on competency and professionalism should be adopted in California in order to better prepare new lawyers for successful transition into law practice. In October of 2013, the Board of Trustees re-authorized TFARR to engage in a second phase of activities focused on developing rules for the implementation of its Phase I recommendations.

Under Board policy, a special committee created by the Board automatically ceases to exist upon completion of its assignment and is deemed dissolved at the Annual Meeting following its creation unless re-authorized by the Board. Board policy states:

It shall be the policy of the board that the president, with the approval of the board, may appoint ad hoc or special committees to handle special assignments, any such committees automatically to cease to exist upon completion of its assignment.

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(6) Each Ad Hoc Committee shall be deemed dissolved as of the next State Bar Annual Meeting following its authorization, unless the board re-authorizes it.

Board Book tab 9, art. 1, § 3(b)(6).

TFARR is nearing completing of Phase II of its work. The Task Force had a meeting on September 16, 2014, but needs additional time to finalize its recommendations for the Board of Trustees.

ISSUE

Should the Board re-authorize TFARR until November 8, 2014 to allow the Task Force to complete its work?

FISCAL / PERSONNEL IMPACT:

Continued administrative costs and expense reimbursements related to the Task Force.

RULE AMENDMENTS:

N/A

BOARD BOOK IMPACT:

N/A

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board Executive Committee re-authorize TFARR until November 8, 2014 to allow the Task Force to complete its work.

PROPOSED COMMITTEE RESOLUTION:

Should the Board Executive concur with the recommendation, the following resolution would be in order:

RESOLVED, the Board Executive Committee hereby authorizes the Task Force on Admissions Regulation Reform to continue its activities until November 8, 2014.