

AGENDA ITEM

JULY 141

Board Created External Committees

DATE: July 11, 2001

TO: Board of Governors

FROM: Board Committee on Planning

SUBJECT: **Board Created External and Standing Committees**

State Bar President Palmer Madden directed staff to review the existing external Board committees and make recommendations to the Board of Governors to streamline and enhance the effectiveness of these committees as the Bar continues to return to full capacity post veto. The attached questionnaire was sent to all Board-created committees. Upon receipt of the original survey responses a set of four follow-up questions were sent out to the committee staff:

1. Is the State Bar the best organization to undertake this work? (Why?)
2. Are there other groups that are already doing the "work" of our committees?
3. If the answer to number 2 is yes, does our committee make a difference?
4. Can we make a difference without having a committee?

The responses to these questions and the original survey responses are attached.

The responses to the initial survey and follow-up questions present a good snapshot of the current Board committees. There are several obvious conclusions:

1. In general, the committees are still recovering from a lack of resources and staff resulting from the veto.
2. The volunteers who made the time and work commitment to the subject matter areas are anxious to expand their efforts to assist the Board, the courts, and the legislature with technical advice and subject matter expertise.
3. There are still confusion and apprehension over compliance with Keller and Brosterhous in the review of legislation.