Oregon State Bar Special Open Meeting of the Board of Governors April 4, 2013 Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Michael Haglund at 8:00 a.m. on April 4, 2013. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m. Members present from the Board of Governors Patrick Ehlers, Hunter Emerick, Ray Heysell, Ethan Knight, Theresa Kohlhoff, Tom Kranovich, Audrey Matsumonji, Caitlin Mitchel-Markley, Travis Prestwich, Joshua Ross, Richard Spier, David Wade, Charles Wilhoite and Timothy Williams. Staff present were Sylvia Stevens, Susan Grabe and Kateri Walsh.

1. Public Affairs Committee Recommendation

A. Mr. Haglund explained that the issue before the BOG was whether to take a position on HB 2822. The Public Affairs Committee discussed the bill at its meeting on April 3, but did not have a recommendations for the BOG. Mr. Haglund reported that, while the chair of the Committee on Consumer Protection and Government Efficiency is interested in the CLNS Task Force work, he has indicated that he wants the bill to move forward. Mr. Haglund suggested it would be futile to oppose the bill and doing so might jeopardize the success of the Bar's pending legislative agenda. He also pointed out that some members of the CLNS Task Force would be upset if the Bar opposes HB 2822 before the Task Force completes its work.

There followed a vigorous discussion of the relative advantages and risks to opposing HB 2822 or even asking the Committee to defer action until the CLNS Task Force makes its recommendations. The was general agreement that HB 2822 is bad policy because it will increase the cost of foreclosure notices, but also that the timing is unfortunate.

Motion: Mr. Prestwich moved, Mr. Kranovich seconded, and the board voted to take no position on HB 2822. (Wade and Kohlhoff opposed; all others in favor.)