

**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MINUTES
March 4, 2016
Via Teleconference**

Members Participating:

Robert J. Kauffman, President; Brian D. (Buck) Rogers, Secretary; Patrise M. Perkins-Hooker, Immediate Past President; John R.B. Long, YLD President; V. Sharon Edenfield, YLD Immediate Past President; Thomas R. Burnside, III; Elizabeth Louise Fite; Kenneth B. Hodges, III; David S. Lipscomb; and Nicki Vaughn.

Members Absent:

Patrick T. O'Connor, President-elect and Treasurer; Jennifer Campbell Mock, YLD President-elect; and Phyllis Holmen.

Staff Participating:

Sharon Bryant, Chief Operating Officer; Jeff Davis, Executive Director; Paula Frederick, General Counsel; Steve Laine, Chief Financial Officer; and Thomas Worthy, Director of Governmental Affairs.

Guest Participating:

Rusty Sewell, Legislative Consultant.

Legislative Proposal - Senate Bill 367

Following a report by Thomas Worthy and Rusty Sewell, the Executive Committee took the following action on Senate Bill 367 (criminal justice reform bill) after obtaining the required 2/3rd vote of the Executive Committee members by email approving the specially called Executive Committee meeting:


1. By unanimous voice vote found the subject matter to be within the legitimate purposes of the Bar; and
2. By unanimous voice vote determined that immediate action was necessary since the Board of Governors is not meeting until May 7, 2016; and
3. By unanimous voice vote supported Senate Bill 367.

Judicial Qualifications Commission (JQC)

Before this item was discussed, Jeff Davis recused himself from the meeting. Thomas Worthy and Rusty Sewell provided an update on the proposed bill that reconstitutes the JQC. The bill is now with the Senate Ethics Committee. Thomas Worthy recommended that the State Bar work with the Committee so that the Bar's appointments remain intact if the bill is revised. If the final bill strips the Bar of its appointments, the State Bar should oppose the bill. President Bob Kauffman reported on actions taken by the JQC at its most recent meeting and the Supreme Court's position on the proposed legislation. He plans to send a letter to the members of the Senate Ethics Committee that reiterates the importance of having appointees from both the State Bar and the judiciary. He suggested that it might be advisable to hire an additional lobbyist if the bill is revised to eliminate the Bar's appointments and approved by the Senate Ethics Committee. By unanimous voice vote the Executive Committee authorized President Kauffman to hire an additional lobbyist at his discretion and in consultation with Thomas Worthy and Rusty Sewell.

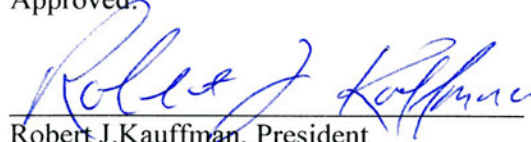
Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.



Brian D. (Buck) Rogers, Secretary

Approved:



Robert J. Kauffman, President