



# Federal Bar Association

## **Policy No. 1-12: Delegate to the ABA House of Delegates and Procedure for Consideration of Resolutions Before the ABA House of Delegates**

**Date Approved:** March 27, 2015

**Date Effective:** March 27, 2015

### **Policy:**

If the Board of Directors chooses to participate in the House of Delegates of the American Bar Association (ABA), the FBA's Delegate to the ABA House of Delegates is the Government Relations Committee Chair or their designee, who is appointed by the FBA president to a term of office for the number of years then provided for members of the House of Delegates by the ABA. When the ABA authorizes the FBA an increase in the number of delegates to the ABA House of Delegates, the FBA president, after the Board of Directors' prompt consideration of appointing additional delegates, may appoint such additional delegate or delegates with the approval of the Board of Directors.

The Delegate or Delegates shall represent the FBA in the ABA House of Delegates and in such other matters before the ABA as the Board of Directors may direct. The Delegate shall attend at least one (1) out of every three (3) ABA House of Delegate Meetings. The Delegate has authority to vote for or against or to abstain from voting on resolutions before the ABA House of Delegates at its Annual and Midyear Meeting. In order to assist the delegate in exercising this authority, the resolutions before the ABA House of Delegates shall be subject to the following procedure:

1. Resolutions shall be referred to Government Relations Committee and Government Relations Counsel for comment and advice. The Government Relations Counsel shall provide advice that considers, *inter alia*, the political impact of supporting an issue considering the FBA Issues Agenda and other core FBA interests and government relations initiatives.
2. Resolutions shall be referred to the appropriate Sections and Divisions for comment. The comment period shall last no longer than 15 business days. Comments shall be delivered to both the Government Relations Counsel and the Government Relations Committee Chair.
3. With the benefit of any advice from the Government Relations Committee, Government Relations Counsel and Sections and Divisions, the Government Relations Committee Chair may present recommendations to the Executive Committee of the Board for its review, comment, and any direction if the Delegate believes the resolution merits further consideration by the Association.
4. The Delegate shall vote only on resolutions related to issues included in the FBA Issues Agenda or that directly relate to the administration of the federal justice system or its practitioners. The Delegate shall abstain from voting on all other resolutions.

**Purpose:**

To assist the Delegate in exercising their authority in voting on resolutions before the ABA House of Delegates.

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**Change Notice:** Amended 11/17/2021 to reflect governance changes approved by membership and National Council and includes voting limitations to resolutions that are covered by the FBA Issues Agenda. The ABA Delegate elected in FY2021 is eligible to complete their two-year term.