

**State Bar of Michigan
Representative Assembly
September 26, 2002**

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

The following is a summary of proceedings of the State Bar Representative Assembly session held Thursday, September 26, 2002, in the Pantlind Ballroom at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

1. Call to order by Chairperson Julie I. Fershtman.
2. Clerk Daniel M. Levy declared a quorum was present.
3. The Assembly observed a moment of silence in memory of the late George Bushnell, Jr., and the late Hon. Martin Doctoroff.
4. Sheldon G. Larky of the 6th Circuit made a motion to move Item 12 on the calendar to after Item 7. The motion was seconded and then rejected by the Assembly. Upon a motion made and seconded, the calendar was adopted.
5. As provided in Rule 4.8, the Summary of Proceedings of the April 27, 2002, meeting was deemed approved.
6. Upon a motion made and seconded, John P. Lovinger (1st Judicial Circuit), Gordon S. McNeill (5th Judicial Circuit), Chad W. Peltier (11th Judicial Circuit), Carl E. Chioni (16th Judicial Circuit), and Stanley K. Hill (42nd Judicial Circuit) were appointed to fill immediate vacancies within their respective circuits.
7. Ms. Fershtman addressed the Assembly.
8. Bruce W. Neckers, President of the State Bar of Michigan, addressed the Assembly.
9. Reginald M. Turner, Jr., President-Elect of the State Bar of Michigan, addressed the Assembly.
10. Upon a motion moved and seconded, the Assembly deferred the Michigan Supreme Court Administrative Order No. 99-31, which proposes amendments to MCR 9.200, *et seq.*, regarding the judicial discipline system, to the Assembly's Special Issues Committee.
11. Allyn Kantor, Chair of the Special Issues Committee, provided an informational status report on his committee.
12. Lisa Allen-Kost, Director of the State Bar of Michigan's Programs and Services Division, provided a report to the Assembly regarding State Bar of Michigan member services, followed by a question-and-answer session.

13. Elizabeth A. Jamieson, Chair of the Assembly's Review Committee, presented the Committee's report on its assessment of the Assembly.
14. Upon a motion made and seconded, the Assembly approved a resolution stating that each State Bar Section Council be asked to accept an Assembly member as liaison, to be appointed by the Assembly Chairperson.
15. Upon a motion made and seconded, the Assembly approved a resolution stating that that members of the Assembly who receive Committee appointments pursuant to Article VI, Section 2 of the Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan and Rule 11 of the Supreme Court Rules Concerning the State Bar of Michigan shall act as Assembly Liaisons to the Committees and shall report back to the Assembly as needed.
16. Upon a motion made and seconded, the Assembly approved a resolution stating that Assembly meetings shall have space on the calendar for timely and pertinent informational reports from Sections and Committees of the State Bar of Michigan, and Sections and Committees shall be encouraged to present such reports to the Assembly.
17. Upon a motion made and seconded, the Assembly approved a resolution stating that members of the Representative Assembly should receive, on a regular and timely basis, information on all "policy" decisions made between Assembly meetings by the State Bar of Michigan Board of Commissioners.
18. Upon a motion made and seconded, the Assembly tabled a recommendation to adopt amendments to the Michigan Rule of Professional Conduct 6.1 regarding pro bono service by lawyers, pending review by the State Bar Standing Committee on Professional and Judicial Ethics.
19. Ms. Diehl, Ms. Fershtman and Mr. Berry responded to questions from members of the Assembly concerning the operations and activities of the State Bar of Michigan.
20. Outside speaker Richard Robinson, Executive Director of the Michigan Campaign Finance Network, who was granted floor privileges from the Assembly upon a motion made and seconded, provided an informational report on the issue of public funding of judicial elections. Following Mr. Robinson's report, and upon a motion made and seconded, the Assembly approved a resolution supporting the public funding of judicial elections, consistent with the position of the American Bar Association, stating that public funding of judicial elections serves the best interest of the public, the judiciary and the justice system.
21. Upon a motion made and seconded, Elizabeth A. Jamieson was elected Clerk of the Representative Assembly.

22. Upon a motion made and seconded, the Assembly unanimously approved the nominations of Margaret J. Nichols and Norman D. Tucker as the joint recipients of the 2002 Michael Franck Award.
23. The Assembly presented plaques to the 2001-2002 Assembly Committee Chairpersons.
24. The Assembly recognized outgoing Assembly members whose terms of service end after the September 2002 meeting and presented each with a certificate.
25. On behalf of the Representative Assembly, outgoing Chairperson Julie I. Fershtman was presented a plaque in appreciation of her service to the Assembly.
26. Thomas C. Rombach was sworn in as the 2002-2003 Chairperson of the Representative Assembly by The Honorable John C. Foster, 41-B District Court.
27. Adjournment.