

Legal Services to the Public Committee

Resolution

Whereas the Access to Justice Act was passed in 2002 to raise much needed funding for legal services to the neediest among us in Pennsylvania; and

Whereas the Access to Justice Act has provided funding which is vital to the continued strength and effectiveness of legal services programs in Pennsylvania and to the delivery of legal assistance to thousands of Pennsylvanians in the face of uncertain and inconsistent funding from other sources; and

Whereas the Access to Justice Act was passed with a five-year sunset provision which will cause this much needed funding for legal services to end in 2007; and

Whereas the PBA had supported an earlier version of the Access to Justice Act which did not contain any sunset provision:

Be it resolved that the Pennsylvania Bar Association endorses efforts to repeal and eliminate the sunset provision through the adoption of appropriate legislation, and authorizes the President to use the resources of the PBA through its leadership, legislative office and other means to help achieve that repeal and elimination.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth W. Fritsch, Co-Chair
Legal Services to the Public Committee

June 15, 2005

Passed the PBA Board of Governors 6/05