

AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

ADOPTED BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES
FEBRUARY 6, 2012

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, That the American Bar Association urges state and territorial bar admission authorities to adopt rules, regulations, and procedures that accommodate the unique needs of military spouse attorneys who move frequently in support of the nation's defense, including but not limited to:

1. Enacting "admission by endorsement" for military spouse attorneys, whereby a military spouse attorney holding an active license to practice law in at least one state, territory or the District of Columbia, in good standing in all jurisdictions where admitted, and who possesses the requisite character and fitness and meets the educational standards required for admission would be admitted without examination to the practice of law in another jurisdiction, while the applicant:
 - a. demonstrates presence in that jurisdiction due to a spouse's military service;
 - b. establishes that he or she is not currently subject to a lawyer discipline or the subject of a pending disciplinary matter in any jurisdiction;
 - c. pays any applicable annual client protection fund assessment; and
 - d. complies with all other ethical, legal and continuing legal education obligations;
2. Reviewing current bar application and admission procedures to ensure that they are not unduly burdensome to military spouse attorneys and that those applications are handled promptly;
3. Encouraging mentorship programs to connect military spouse attorneys with local members of the bar; and
4. Offering reduced bar application and membership fees to military spouse attorneys who are new to the jurisdiction or who no longer reside in the jurisdiction but wish to retain bar membership.