

From: [Sunset Advisory Commission](#)
To: [Brittany Calame](#); [Cecelia Hartley](#)
Subject: FW: Texas State Bar
Date: Tuesday, May 31, 2016 8:16:25 AM

-----Original Message-----

Sent: Saturday, May 28, 2016 4:06 PM
To: Sunset Advisory Commission
Subject: Texas State Bar

Sunset Commission:

I would like to make one recommendation to the committee regarding the evaluation of the Texas state bar. My concern is the ability of non-ABA law school graduates to sit for the Texas state bar exam. Currently, the bar does not allow a law school graduate of a non-ABA accredited law school to sit for the bar exam. I, myself, am currently in my 3rd year of a part-time, non-ABA accredited law school program through Concord Law School. I would like to see the Texas bar allow individuals, such as myself, who are working full time, raising young families, and dedicating 4 years of evenings to complete law school, as well as having many other responsibilities, to test the depth of their legal knowledge by allowing them to sit for the state bar exam. There are many qualified individuals who have taken a non-traditional approach to their education, and are just as competent as other law students who have taken the traditional approach to complete law school. I believe the ultimate litmus test to practice law in Texas should be the ability to pass the bar exam.

I would like to note that this is not a new idea, as other states allow certain non-ABA law school graduates to take their particular state bar exams. I personally know multiple individuals who have taken the same academic approach to their legal education as I have, and passed the California bar. These individuals are a great asset to the legal system in that state, one of which is my own father. Additionally, I would like to draw your attention to Texas House Bill 2446, <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlodocs/84R/billtext/html/HB02446I.htm>, a bill which has already begun the potential reevaluation of applicants for the state bar.

Finally, I would be more than happy to meet and discuss this topic further if you have any interest. I look forward to your response, and appreciate the opportunity to make my concern known.

Thank you,

Timothy M. Orr, DMD