

Statement of Interest for David Lawson  
WSBA Business Law Section  
Nonprofit Corporations Committee Chair  
April 24, 2024

I have served as Chair of the Nonprofit Corporations Committee for the past two years. Before that, I was the Committee's recorder for several years, during which time the Committee drafted the new Nonprofit Corporation Act. I have enjoyed the work and wish to continue it, and hope Section members will re-elect me to the Chair position.

In the last year, the Committee has finalized a package of revisions to the new Nonprofit Corporation Act, which we are currently running through the WSBA approval process. We have also strengthened the Committee itself. Attendance at Committee meetings has grown, with several new regular attendees with backgrounds different from the law firm background that has been most traditional for Committee members. The Committee has continued to serve as a valuable point of interface between practitioners and the state regulators most active in the nonprofit corporate area, who send high-level representatives to most of our meetings.

If I am re-elected as Chair, I plan to have the Committee work on two legislative projects this coming year, with the assistance of several Committee members who have already generously offered their time and energy to these projects. The first, which has been on the Committee's radar for several years, is a package of revisions to the charitable provisions of the Washington Trust Act that will harmonize them with the new Nonprofit Corporation Act. The second is to propose amendments to the Nonprofit Corporation Act that will clarify the law regarding derivative actions on behalf of nonprofit corporations, which is currently very uncertain.

Thank you for your support.