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Issue 279 | December 8

Petitions Ask U.S. Supreme Court to Reconsider Keller, Extend Janus to Mandatory Bar Dues

In Separate Petitions, Lawyers from Oklahoma, Texas Ask U.S. Supreme Court to Reconsider *Keller*, Extend *Janus* to Mandatory Bar Dues

While it's been cited in several court cases against mandatory bars, thus far, the 2018 U.S. Supreme Court ruling in *Janus v. AFSCME* has not been found to overrule *Keller v. State Bar of California*, from 1990. But that could change: In two separate petitions in late November, lawyers from Texas and Oklahoma who are unhappy with certain uses of their mandatory bar dues urged the court to reconsider its *Keller* decision in light of *Janus*. Last year, the court declined a similar petition regarding the State Bar of Wisconsin. [Reuters](#) has more details about this latest development in the First Amendment challenges involving the Oklahoma Bar Association and the State Bar of Texas.

ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar Removes Hurdle for Law Schools to Accept GRE in Place of LSAT

In a closed session late last month, the council of the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar voted to allow law schools to accept Graduate Record Examination scores from applicants in place of Law School Admission Test scores, effective immediately. Before this decision, law schools that wanted to accept entrance exams other than the LSAT, including the GRE, had to demonstrate that these exams were valid and reliable. Because this change affects how Standard 503 is applied but doesn't revise the standard itself, it does not require a concurring decision by the ABA House of Delegates. How does this differ from a previous proposal regarding that same standard, and how long might it take to see any impact from this recent change? Learn more at [ABA Journal](#).

Legal Regulatory Update: Oregon Seeks Comment on Paraprofessional Program, Litigation Finance Firms Mull Law Firm Ownership in Arizona

The Oregon State Bar is seeking public comment on a potential paraprofessional licensing program that would allow paralegals to handle landlord-tenant issues and certain family law cases. The comment period is open until at least February 18, and the Oregon State Supreme Court is expected to make a decision on the program sometime in early 2022. [OregonLive](#) has more information, including the context for this proposal and what some have said both for and against it. In other news involving regulation of the legal industry, two major litigation finance firms have said that Arizona's rule changes earlier this year have opened the door for them to co-own law firms?but neither appears to be jumping at the opportunity just yet. What are they waiting for? Find out at [Bloomberg Law](#).

New Program for Underrepresented Law School Candidates Offers Guaranteed Admission, Scholarship Money, Help in Improving LSAT Score

As part of a new bootcamp program for minority and first-generation law students, 10 U.S.

law schools will offer one-year deferred admission and scholarship money (at least 20 percent of tuition) to certain underrepresented candidates whose initial applications just missed the cut. Participants will spend the deferred year preparing for a retake of the Law School Admission Test and for law school. The program was funded, designed, and will be administered by AccessLex Institute, which will also provide a stipend of \$3,000 to each participant who successfully completes the program. [Reuters](#) offers more details, including some of the participating law schools, how the program will work, and how participants will be referred and selected.



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