

LELLA R. ROSE
1011 West Toledo Street
Bellingham, WA. 98229

April 28, 2009

Camilla Faulk
P.O. Box 40929
Olympia, WA. 98504-0929

RE: Proposed APR28-Legal Technicians

Dear Ms. Faulk:

I write this letter in support of the Legal Technician Rule.

The Supreme Court commissioned The Civil Legal Needs Study (2003) to determine if the legal needs of the consuming public were being met. The findings concluded that the needs of the consuming public *were not being met*. After a great deal of time and effort, the Practice of Law Board worked diligently into creating a resolution to this problem. The proposed Legal Technician Rule is the answer to this need.

Some members of the panel include attorneys and judges who have put a great deal of time and effort into shaping and promoting this rule. Since the rule, as currently contemplated, is confined to the family law area of practice, it is a positive step towards creating better access to the legal system by many who cannot afford lawyers.

Recently, I have had the pleasure to volunteer at Law Advocates in the Domestic Violence Self-Help Clinic. This clinic assists pro se litigants who have very little understanding of the judicial process. By volunteering there, it is apparent to me that there is a strong need for low-income citizens to receive help with their legal issues, especially pertaining to family law. However, this service alone cannot satisfy the overwhelming number of people in need.

Without the proper assistance, pro se litigants are essentially doing it themselves, and putting further stress on Judges and the court system. Thus, I believe that these people will not be going to an attorney, who they cannot afford; but rather, to a Legal Technician with fees more likely to be affordable.

To conclude, I support the Legal Technician Rule because it provides a specific demographic with better access to the civil legal system. With the proper education, background, and experience, a Legal Technician can provide pro se litigants with affordable help and hope for the future.

Sincerely,

Lella Rose