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Subject: FW: Please Reconsider Your Decision to Sunset LLLT Reform
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From: Zapolsky, David [mailto:davidz@amazon.com]
Sent: Friday, April 16, 2021 12:00 PM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>
Subject: Please Reconsider Your Decision to Sunset LLLT Reform

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To Whom It May Concern:

I write today to urge the Court to re-examine its decision to “sunset” the Limited License Legal Technician (“LLLT”) program. In a time when the poor and underrepresented in our communities need more help than ever to gain access to equitable outcomes from our justice system, the Court’s inexplicable decision to shutter this innovative reform would represent an indelible stain on the otherwise progressive record this Court has built in guiding our legal system toward a more equitable and accessible legal system. Justice Madsen’s [eloquent dissent](#) to that decision says it best: “It is not the time for closing the doors to justice but, instead, for opening them wider.”

To the extent there are legitimate concerns about the cost or operation of the LLLT program, the answer isn’t simply to give up quietly. Instead, I encourage the Court to convene and engage stakeholders throughout the bar and the justice system, including judges, in-house counsel, and law firms, to assess potential solutions to those concerns and consider various ways that the program can be made more effective, including by expanding the ways in which LLLTs can help unrepresented individuals. Utah and Arizona are already making important strides in experimenting with [their own programs](#). Michigan, California and North Carolina are considering similar reforms.

As General Counsel of one of the largest in-house legal departments in Washington, I stand ready to help make the LLLT an effective, innovative reform that can lead other states toward expanding more universal access to justice and ensuring that our legal system works for everyone, not just for those with resources to pay for a private practice lawyer.

Thank you for your consideration and please don’t hesitate to contact me directly if I can be of any assistance in this effort.

Sincerely,

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