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Subject: FW: sunset of LLLT program
Date: Friday, April 16, 2021 8:00:11 AM

From: Mark Eaker [mailto:markeaker1313@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 15, 2021 9:10 PM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>
Subject: sunset of LLLT program

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To: Washington State Supreme Court,

I urgently ask that you reverse the decision to sunset the Limited License Legal Technician license. Legal representation is so extraordinarily expensive, it's difficult to see how everyday citizens could have any hope of this representation should they ever (and more than likely will) need it. Especially in matters as important as parenting ship, child custody, and visitation of children who love and want to be with both parents. Also, the prevention of parent alienation, something I am familiar with myself.

LLLT's are highly trained, highly skilled professionals with the ability to help fill some of the justice gap for individuals who are otherwise unable to retain legal counsel in the form that now exists. They are held to incredible scrutiny in terms of education, and in training/experience in real time family law matters. They are not trained for a few weeks and turned loose, they have very high requirements and are closely monitored every step of the way. Those who do not meet the very high standards required of LLLT's simply are not allowed to obtain a law degree.

I myself went through a child custody case that financially destroyed me. Please do not misunderstand me, my son was and is worth every penny I spent, and worth every penny I am still in debt for as a result of the case. If a LLLT were to exist at the time I endured the case, the result may not have changed, but the amount of money I had left afterwards may have, money that could have been spent flying back and forth to the East coast to see my son, and provide him with his needs (and a few wants) when I was fortunate enough to have time with him here in Washington.

I am not asking you to feel bad for me. What I am asking is that you give people of lesser economic standing the same right to legal representation that anyone else has. Folks with limited resources love their kids just as much as anyone else. LLLT's do some really good work, and are important to our society in my opinion.

This should be an issue of people's lives (including children), not about money, This can actually be achieved by allowing the LLLT program to continue, and work in harmony with attorneys to serve all humanity, not just the privileged few. I am available to be reached by phone or e mail if you would like to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

Mark C. Eaker

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