

**OREGON STATE BAR  
LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL  
Part I – Legislative Summary**

**Re:** [SB 181](#) - Pro Bono and Access to Justice Attorney Fees

**Submitted by:** Consumer Law Section

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**1. Does this amend current law or program? Yes  No  Specify ORS 20.075**

Adds pro bono & access to justice factors to attorney fee applications

**2. Problem Presented:**

Attorneys who work pro bono (including legal services organizations) on consumer-related claims with fee shifting statutes often get their fees reduced as a result of the pro bono representation or smaller amounts at issue. This discourages attorneys from taking pro bono with right to attorney fee cases and it prevents legal service organizations from providing the best representation for indigent clients.

**3. Solution:**

The purpose of the bill is to ensure courts take access to justice into consideration when determining the amount of attorney fees to award to a successful individual party who was represented pro bono. It gives a boost in fees to attorneys who take risks in representing their clients pro bono and ensures that attorneys are adequately compensated while expanding access to justice for Oregonians most in need.

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Part II – Legislative Language**

Please provide your legislative language below:

SB 181 - <https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2021R1/Measures/Overview/SB181>