

Introduced by Senator Schiff
(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Hertzberg)

January 5, 1999

An act to add and repeal Section 6140 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to the State Bar.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 144, as introduced, Schiff. State Bar: membership fees.

Existing law authorizes the Board of Governors of the State Bar to charge its members certain annual fees to defray the expenses of various duties and functions of the board of governors. Until January 1, 1998, existing law required the board of governors to establish annual membership fees for active members based on the amount of time the member has been practicing law, as specified.

This bill would require the board of governors to fix annual membership fees for active members based on the amount of time the member has been practicing law, pursuant to a schedule containing unspecified fee amounts. It would provide for the repeal of these fee provisions as of an unspecified date.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 6140 is added to the Business and
- 2 Professions Code, to read:

1 6140. (a) The board shall fix the annual membership
2 fee for ____ as follows:

3 (1) For active members who have been admitted to
4 the practice of law in this state for three years or longer
5 preceding the first day of February of the year for which
6 the fee is payable, at the sum of ____ dollars
7 (\$____).

8 (2) For active members who have been admitted to
9 the practice of law in this state for less than three years
10 but more than one year preceding the first day of
11 February of the year for which the fee is payable, at the
12 sum of ____ dollars (\$____).

13 (3) For active members who have been admitted to
14 the practice of law in this state during, or for less than one
15 year preceding the first day of February of the year for
16 which the fee is payable, at a sum not exceeding ____
17 dollars (\$____).

18 (b) The annual membership fee for active members is
19 payable on or before the first day of February of each
20 year. If the board finds it appropriate and feasible, it may
21 provide by rule for payment of fees on an installment
22 basis with interest, by credit card, or other means, and
23 may charge members choosing any alternative method of
24 payment an additional fee to defray costs incurred by that
25 election.

26 This section shall remain in effect only until January 1,
27 ____, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later
28 enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1,
29 ____, deletes or extends that date.

