Joe K. Longley
for President-Elect
of the Texas State Bar

For 77 years, our right to vote on Dues & Discipline has held us together as a profession. We need to keep it that way.
Meet Joe Longley

Throughout his legal career, Joe Longley has championed each Bar member’s right to vote in all Bar referenda. After leading the successful opposition to a 1976 proposed dues increase, in 1979 he helped lead the successful effort to pass a one-time assessment referendum to pay off the mortgage note on the Texas Law Center that was in jeopardy of default. This sensible solution avoided another dues increase.

For the past 44 years, Joe Longley has worked with the Texas legislature to benefit Texas lawyers and their clients. In 1973, he co-authored and nurtured the passage of the DTPA, together with the private remedies sections now found in Chapter 541 of the Texas Insurance Code. Likewise, he co-authored Chapters 542 (Prompt Pay) and 544 (Unfair discrimination) of the Insurance Code; together with the Texas Debt Collections Practices Act; the Texas Home Solicitations Act; and Landlord-Tenant Protections.

In 2000, Texas Lawyer named him to its list of 100 Legal Legends; and in 2002, Texas Lawyer named him as its Number One GO-TO-LAWYER for Insurance Law. In 2011, the State Bar’s Insurance Section Council made Joe the recipient of the Section’s Insurance Legend Award.

Joe has authored numerous seminar papers and taught Insurance Law at UT Law School. He also served as a Director of the State Bar of Texas, a member of the District 9 Grievance Committee, and Chairman of the State Bar’s Consumer Law Section.

Joe is married to Maggie Longley; has three grown children and is blessed with five grandchildren.
Help me preserve democracy within The State Bar by protecting our right to vote!

Taking away our power over the purse strings to the State Bar finances is a bad idea, especially in light of the recent $500,000 theft of dues money by the Bar’s Membership Director (and Deputy Supreme Court Clerk). This embezzlement of Bar dues took place over a nine-year period (2003-2012) and was only discovered by someone other than the thief finally reviewing cancelled checks.

Our voting power over dues and fee increases is our only restraint over this type of documented internal fraud that has infected the State Bar—and has eroded members’ trust. The nine-year theft of our Bar Dues by an “insider” is the biggest scandal in the 77 year history of the “unified” Bar.
Last year, the State Bar identified your right to vote as an “obstacle” that impairs the State Bar’s “ability to achieve its objectives,” when, in fact, it’s the Bar’s lack of transparency that threatens its very existence in the legislative Sunset process.

We need a State Bar that works for you and your clients—instead of for itself.

I am running for State Bar President - Elect to:

- Preserve your right to vote on dues and fee increases.
- Preserve your right to vote on changes in disciplinary rules.
- Bring more transparency to the Bar’s financial activities.
- Represent your voice at every State Bar Board meeting.

The Bar’s continued existence as a state agency is currently before the legislature (SB 302 & HB 2102) as part of the Sunset process. Sections 3 & 6 of these bills will abolish our right to vote on dues and fee increases unless these disenfranchising sections are deleted. Thus, unless amended, these bills will transfer our fiscal control over the Bar’s finances to the Texas Supreme Court.

Vote April 3rd - May 2nd
Preserve Democracy!

Our voting power over dues and fee increases is our only restraint over the internal financial fraud and waste that has infected the State Bar. Abolishing our right to vote will only enhance the long-time perception that the State Bar is an exclusive club run by a hand-full of insider cronies.

Cast Your Vote For The Right To Vote April 3rd - May 2nd

VOTE JOE LONGLEY