



LSSA publishes its draft submissions on the Legal Practice Bill

Dear Colleague

The Law Society of South Africa (LSSA) has published its current draft comments on the Legal Practice Bill.

- ▶ [Click here](#) to download the draft comments by the LSSA.
- ▶ [Click here](#) to download the Legal Practice Bill, 2012.

Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development, Jeff Radebe, published the Legal Practice Bill in May this year. In general the LSSA has welcomed the numerous improvements that have been made to the previous versions of the Bill as a result of our and other submissions. However, the current Bill still contains aspects that the LSSA believes need refinement and, in its submissions, it suggests the substantial adjustment or removal of some of these aspects in the Bill.

The LSSA has noted the fact that better regulation of all legal practitioners – including those that currently do not fall under any specific regulatory body – is a positive move for the profession and also for the protection of the public.

The LSSA's Legal Practice Bill Task Team and the LSSA Council have considered the Bill. In addition, the Task Team and LSSA Management Committee members have been holding regular meetings with representatives of the General Council of the Bar (GCB) in order to find as much common ground with the advocates' profession.

The Justice Portfolio Committee published its call for written comments on the Bill in June, setting an original deadline of 27 July 2012. The LSSA and the GCB jointly approached the Portfolio Committee for an extension of that deadline, which was granted by the Committee. The extended deadline for written comments has not been published as yet.

The LSSA Council will consider the draft comments at its last meeting for the year at the end of November 2012 with a view to finalising these for submission to the Portfolio Committee.

For a full chronological background on the Legal Practice Bill, including previous versions, submissions and comments as well as press releases relating to the Bill, [click here](#).

Kind regards

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