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National Pro Bono Celebration

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Delaware General Assembly Passes Pro Bono Week Resolution

Thursday, September 17, 2009

- Organization: **American Bar Association Standing Committee on Pro Bono and Public Service**

The Delaware House of Representatives passed a concurrent resolution declaring October 25-31, 2009 as Delaware's Pro Bono Celebration Week. The resolution cites the work of Delaware Volunteer Legal Services as well as many pro bono attorneys, without whom many low-income Delawareans would not receive the legal assistance they need. Delaware's week coincides with the American Bar Association Standing Committee on Pro Bono and Public Service's first annual celebration week.

The Delaware resolution was introduced by State Representative Melanie George Marshall of the 5th District and was passed on June 30, 2009. Rep. George has been a pro bono volunteer for Delaware Volunteer Legal Services (DVLS). According to Rep. George, "we passed the resolution from my perspective [because] we, the legislature, wanted to recognize and thank all the lawyers who give so much of their valuable time to help those in need. A strong democracy is built on a strong judiciary, and if people don't have access to the judiciary because they don't have attorneys, then not only is our justice system weakened, but so is our democracy".

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