

  
NEW ORLEANS  
BAR ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
May 3, 2007

**Resolution in Support of the Louisiana Public Defender Act, House Bill 436,  
Which Creates the Louisiana Public Defender Board**

**WHEREAS**, the mission of the New Orleans Bar Association is to preserve the dignity and the viability of the Rule of Law through the due administration of justice and by providing access to justice;

**WHEREAS**, the State of Louisiana recognizes the significance of indigent defense, having mandated that “the Legislature shall provide for a uniform system of securing and compensating qualified counsel for indigents;”

**WHEREAS**, the underlying purpose of the legislation which creates the Louisiana Public Defender Board is to consolidate resources and implement uniform standards thereby enhancing the effectiveness of the criminal justice system;

**WHEREAS**, the legislation recommends that funding be increased and policies be implemented to improve the administration of the system;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the New Orleans Bar Association supports House Bill 436 of the 2007 Regular Session which creates the Louisiana Public Defender Board; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the New Orleans Bar Association urges the Louisiana House and Senate to enact House Bill 436 which addresses overall administration and funding of the indigent defense system in Louisiana.

This 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,



Carl J. Barbier  
President