

Date: November 30, 2018
To: Executive Committee, ULC
From: Barbara Atwood, Chair, JEBUFL
Re: Year-end Report, JEBUFL

The JEBUFL held its annual in-person meeting on November 16, 2018, in Washington, DC. You'll recall that the JEB held a spring telephonic meeting on March 27, 2018, and filed a report with leadership on May 9, 2018, summarizing its activities.

I am attaching the minutes of our recent in-person meeting for your convenience. Significant decisions reached during the meeting include the following:

1. In response to an inquiry from the ABA Family Law Section Chair, we reviewed our dues structure. We agreed to reduce the annual dues for JEB members from \$5000 to \$4000. This decision was based on the fact that the JEB has been accumulating a surplus over the last 10 years, at present totaling about \$68,000. The surplus is the result of our practice of meeting in person only once a year, and our membership expanding to four organizations. Over the last four years, annual expenses have averaged \$15,606 – slightly less than we will take in with a \$4000 dues payment from each member organization. We will revisit this question in 2020.
2. We also agreed that we would use some of the surplus funds to pay for JEB members to attend drafting committee meetings of special interest. At present, two family-law related drafting projects originated with proposals from this JEB, and there is intense interest in following the activities of the committees. As JEB chair, I will likely attend the first meeting of the Economic Rights of Unmarried Cohabitants drafting committee this spring, and Stacey Platt may attend the spring meeting of the Unregulated Transfer of Adopted Children drafting committee.
3. In response to a request from Commissioner Martha Walters that the JEB consider promoting the revised Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children, we discussed the pros and cons. The proposed revision has been approved by about a dozen states but needs the approval of 35 states in order to go into effect. After discussion and consideration of additional materials provided by Reporter Linda Elrod, the members concluded that we should not put effort into promoting the ICPC in light of concerns about the revised ICPC on the merits and a general consensus that promoting such an interstate compact was outside the general purpose of the JEB.

4. We unanimously voted to recommend the appointment of a study committee to explore the feasibility and desirability of a uniform or model law on the disposition of human gametes and human embryos. The recommendation is attached for your convenience.
5. We decided not to recommend the appointment of a study committee on the creation of a uniform or model law criminalizing female genital mutilation.
6. We deferred for further research and consideration two additional proposals: the development of a uniform definition of domestic violence, and the development of a uniform or model law on early intervention and family preservation as an alternative to foster care. We will revisit these proposals at our spring telephonic meeting.

We also discussed at some length the limitations of the JEB webpage. We are looking forward to the completion of the new ULC website, since at present the JEB webpage is formatted as if the JEB were a drafting committee. We hope there will be JEB-oriented categories for posting on our webpage, such as links for Minutes and for Reporter's Memoranda.