RESOLUTION SUPPORTING INCREASE IN
FEDERAL JUDICIAL COMPENSATION

WHEREAS adequate judicial compensation is essential to attracting and maintaining excellence in our judiciary, which in turn is fundamental to maintenance of the rule of law;

WHEREAS federal judges have not received a base pay raise since 1992 and failed to receive Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLAs) to which Members of Congress and top-level Executive Branch officials were entitled in 1995, 1996, 1997, 1999, 2007 and 2010;

WHEREAS federal judges’ pay is customarily and statutorily linked to the salaries of Members of Congress and this linkage causes federal judges to suffer when Congress fails to increase its own salary or even accept COLAs that have been provided by statute;

WHEREAS the level of federal judicial compensation has reached a crisis level as the compensation of even entry level attorneys at large law firms exceeds the compensation of federal judges, jeopardizing the ability of the federal bench to attract and retain the most highly qualified candidates; and

WHEREAS the level of judicial compensation disadvantages minority candidates for the judiciary who often cannot afford the financial sacrifice required to serve as a federal judge;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Coalition of Bar Associations of Color joins the American Bar Association in supporting S.2725 and other measures to assure the judiciary of larger, automatic and regular COLAs equal to the COLAs given to other federal employees, unlinked to the COLAs given to Congress; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Coalition of Bar Associations of Color urges that federal judges be granted a retroactive increase in compensation to provide judges with adequate and fair compensation commensurate with the salaries paid to governmental attorneys in other top-level positions.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of the Coalition of Bar Associations of Color until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

CERTIFICATION

WE, the duly-elected Presidents of the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA), the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA), the National Bar Association (NBA), and
the National Native American Bar Association (NNABA), hereby certify that they foregoing Resolution was duly enacted by a duly-noticed meetings of the Board of Directors.

President, Hispanic National Bar Association

President, National Asian Pacific American Bar Association

President, National Bar Association

President, National Native American Bar Association

NNABA
5/26/10
Date

5/26/10
Date

5/26/10
Date