

RANDY L. EWING
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July 11, 2000

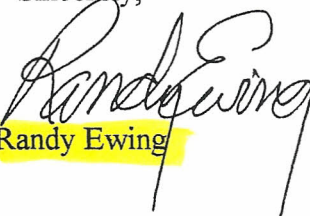
Ms. Helen Edgington, Chair
Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board
C/O Lewis Unglesby
246 Napoleon Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

I write to support the request of Larry Bankston regarding his future status as an attorney. While I am not well versed in the law, nor qualified to make a complete evaluation of the precedent in such cases, I am very familiar with Mr. Bankston and would like to make the following comments.

Larry Bankston and I entered the Louisiana Senate in 1988 and worked together on various committees and pieces of legislation. In our first term, we were both included as floor leaders during the Roemer Administration. I became aware of Larry's intellect and talent and know him to be a competent individual. It is my opinion that he is a very capable person and able to perform the duties of a practicing attorney.

With regard to the reason for consideration of this matter, I have personally always felt that once a person pays his debt to society after an error has taken place, they should be allowed to pick-up and continue with their lives and professions. I believe this to be the intent of our system of justice. Larry was found guilty of charges, and though they were serious, he did suffer the penalty administered by the law, give-up his position in the Louisiana Senate and was removed from society for thirty-one months. It does not seem that it would be appropriate to deny him the opportunity to rebuild his life and to provide for his family or to use the talent and education his possesses.

Sincerely,


Randy Ewing

cc: Larry Bankston
2526 Gate Circle #26
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

RE:pl