

LAWE 790 Legislation (Professor Levi)

First Assignment

Please sign up for the TWEN Course page.

Read the 2 articles on TWEN for our first class. “Am I My Client Revisited,” and “Legislation-What Passed”

We will be learning this semester about how to draft legislation and move an idea from an abstraction to codified law. We will talk a lot about lawyers’ roles in the legislative process. During our first class, we will discuss how our own lives and interests play a role in the legislative advocacy we may do as legislative lawyers. In reading the article – “Am I My Client Revisited,” think about how your interest or experience in working on a legislative campaign might be impacted by having a professional role. How might your role be different if you are acting in a lay capacity in supporting legislative work as compared to if you are working for an organization or corporation as a lobbyist or legislative lawyer representing a client’s interests.

In addition to reading and discussing the law review article, we will be talking about how to identify a topic area for your semester long project which will be to develop a legislative campaign. To begin to do that, please also read the attached newspaper article about legislation that passed and stalled during the last legislative session in Massachusetts. Come to class prepared to discuss what topic you wish to develop as your focus of legislative advocacy. This article is a good jumping off point for thinking about pending legislation. You will not be limited in the legislation you wish to work on this semester. That can be great for people who come in with a passion or an interest. It can be more difficult for those who do not have one (or have very many). Take a look at different websites of organizations with legislative agendas to see what might pique your interest to focus on throughout the semester. Come to class prepared to discuss your interests. Conversations among classmates will help refine your ideas.

See you in class soon!