

Chief Justice Nathan L. Hecht
Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Texas
Supreme Court Building
201 W. 14th, Room 104
Austin, TX 78701
Attn: Rules Attorney Martha Newton
Sent by email to rulescomments@txcourts.gov

***Re: Association of Corporate Counsel Supports Proposed Changes
to Admission Rule XIV, on Foreign Legal Consultants in Texas***

Dear Chief Justice Hecht:

The Association of Corporate Counsel¹ strongly urges the Supreme Court of Texas to adopt Admission Rule XIV, which expands the role of foreign in-house counsel in Texas.

The rule contains two elements that are crucial to in-house lawyers. *First*, the proposal provides an explicit path for companies to hire foreign legal consultants as in-house lawyers. *See* Proposed Rule XIV, Section (1)(b)(4). *Second*, and equally important, the proposal recognizes that different countries authorize lawyers to practice using different systems. Therefore, the proposal is not limited to lawyers from countries that authorize lawyers in the same way as the U.S. Rather, the proposed rule simply asks the relevant question of whether the lawyers' home countries have authorized them to practice law. *See* Proposed Rule XIV, Section (1)(b)(1)(A).

¹ ACC is a global bar association that promotes the common professional and business interests of in-house counsel, with over 33,000 members employed by over 10,000 organizations in more than 85 countries.

In today's global economy, companies need a wide choice of foreign in-house counsel to accommodate their expanding global needs. ACC therefore strongly encourages adoption of the proposed rule and would be available, should you need any further information.

Sincerely yours,



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Director of Advocacy