1	SENATE FLOOR VERSION				
2	March 30, 2021  AS AMENDED				
3	ENGROSSED HOUSE				
4	BILL NO. 2542  By: Stinson and Moore of the House				
5	and				
6	Brooks of the Senate				
7					
8					
9	<pre>[ attorneys - application fees and costs - rules of reciprocal jurisdictions - codification - effective</pre>				
10	date ]				
11					
12					
13	BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:				
14	SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified				
15	in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 19 of Title 5, unless there is				
16	created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:				
17	A. As used in this section:				
18	1. a. "Practice of law" means:				
19	(1) representation of one or more clients in the				
20	practice of law, whether as a solo practitioner,				
21	in a law firm, or for a legal clinic or similar				
22	entity,				
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24					

1			(2)	service as a lawyer with a local, state,
2				territorial or federal agency including military
3				service,
4			(3)	teaching full time at an American Bar Association
5				accredited law school,
6			(4)	service as a judge in a federal, state,
7				territorial or local court of record,
8			(5)	service as a judicial clerk,
9			(6)	service as corporate counsel, or
10			(7)	any combination of the above.
11		b.	"Pra	ctice of law" shall not include work that, as
12			unde	rtaken, would constitute the unauthorized practice
13			of la	aw in the jurisdiction in which it was performed
14			or i	n which the clients receiving the unauthorized
15			serv	ices were located.
16		С.	"Pra	ctice of law" shall not be required to occur
17			outs	ide of Oklahoma, providing that any practice of
18			law	within this state did not include work that, as
19			unde	rtaken, would constitute the unauthorized practice
20			of la	aw; and
21	2.	"Recip	roca	l state" means a state which grants judges and
22	lawyers	licens	sed i	n Oklahoma the right of admission on motion,
23	without	the re	quir	ement of taking an examination and whose

requirements for admission are similar to admission on motion in

- 1 Oklahoma without examination requirements. Reciprocal state
- 2 | includes other states, the District of Columbia and the territories,
- 3 districts, commonwealths or possessions of the United States.
- B. An applicant may, upon motion, be admitted to the practice
- 5 of law in this state if the applicant:
- 6 1. Is a graduate of a law school approved by the American Bar
- 7 Association;
- 8 2. Has been admitted to practice law in another state,
- 9 territory or the District of Columbia;
- 3. Is a member in good standing on active status in a
- 11 | reciprocal state;
- 4. Establishes that the applicant is not currently subject to
- 13 | lawyer discipline or the subject of a pending disciplinary matter in
- 14 | any jurisdiction;
- 5. Has been engaged in the practice of law for a period of five
- 16 (5) of the seven (7) years immediately preceding the date upon which
- 17 | the application is filed; and
- 18 6. Establishes that the applicant possesses the character and
- 19 fitness to practice law in this state.
- 20 C. An applicant who has failed a bar examination administered
- 21 | in this state within five (5) years of the date of filing an
- 22 application under this section shall not be eligible for admission
- 23 on motion.

- D. The applicant shall pay such application fees and costs as may be established by the Supreme Court of Oklahoma.
  - E. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, if a reciprocal state imposes more stringent and exacting limitations on the ability of Oklahoma practitioners to obtain admission by motion, or if the fees required to be paid are higher, the admission of the applicant shall be governed by the same rules and the applicant shall pay the same fees that would apply to an applicant from this state seeking admission to the bar in the state or territory from which the applicant is claiming reciprocity.
  - F. Any applicant that has been denied Admission by Motion Reciprocity by the Oklahoma Board of Bar Examiners under the Rules
    Governing Admission to the Practice of Law in the State of Oklahoma
    in effect as of January 1, 2021, within two (2) years of the date of
    the effective date of this act shall not be required to pay a fee
    for reapplication under this section.
  - SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2021.
- 18 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY March 30, 2021 DO PASS AS AMENDED