(SUBSTITUTED FOR - SEE 1ST SUB)

Declares it is the public policy of this state to: (1) Promote ready access to legal assistance and counsel for citizens of this state; and

(2) Encourage programs and plans that promote arrangements between members of the public as consumers of legal services and lawyers and other trained professionals who provide legal assistance and counsel to the general public for any type of legal needs.

Creates a regulatory environment that is not more burdensome than is necessary to: (1) Ensure that the citizens of this state have ready and uncomplicated access to legal services; and

(2) Safeguard the public from the risk that a legal service contractor providing access to legal services may be unable to fulfill its contractual obligations.