



**Badan Peguam Malaysia
Malaysian Bar**

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**Resolution Adopted at the 80th Annual General Meeting of the Malaysian Bar
(Held on 14 March 2026)**

Resolution to Increase the LawCare Fund Levy from RM100 to RM130 and to Expand the Use of the LawCare Fund to Provide Assistance for Members Affected by Natural Disasters

Whereas:

- (1) Section 46(3) of the Legal Profession Act 1976 (“LPA”) provides:

The Bar Council may from time to time fix levies payable by members for any of the purposes of the Malaysian Bar.

- (2) Section 42(1) of the LPA provides that one of the purposes of the Malaysian Bar shall be:

(k) to afford pecuniary and other assistance to members or former members of the Malaysian Bar, and to the wives, widows, children and other dependants of members, former members or deceased members, who are in need of such assistance.

- (3) The LawCare Fund Levy was introduced through a resolution adopted at the 59th Annual General Meeting of the Malaysian Bar (Reconvened)¹ held on 22 October 2005 (“2005 Resolution”), as reproduced below:

Motion on RM100 contribution to the LawCare Fund and insurance coverage for death and permanent disability and/or any other like schemes under the LawCare Fund Levy

WHEREAS:–

1. The Malaysian Bar is administering a Benevolent Fund for its Members called the LawCare Fund in accordance with the LawCare Fund Rules 2004.
2. It is desirable that funds be sourced from every member of the Bar to support the LawCare Fund which is for the benefit of all Members of the Bar and their immediate Family Members.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED THAT: –

¹ [Item 5\(ii\) LawCare Fund | Motion on RM100 contribution to the LawCare Fund, and insurance coverage for death and permanent disability and/or any other like schemes under the LawCare Fund Levy](#), *Malaysian Bar Website*, 22 October 2025. Accessed at mybar.my/3OEito1.

- a. Every Member of the Bar shall contribute a sum of RM100/– per year to the LawCare Fund such sum to be paid with the Bar Council Annual Subscription (the LawCare Fund Levy).
- b. The Bar Council shall be authorised to negotiate and arrange for insurance coverage for death and permanent disability and / or any other like schemes using the said LawCare Fund Levy or any part thereof for the benefit of members.

The motion was unanimously carried.

- (4) The LawCare Fund is administered in accordance with the Malaysian Bar LawCare Rules 2004 (“LawCare Rules”) and is presently used, *inter alia*, to:
 - (a) pay the group insurance premium for Group Term Life, Total and Permanent Disability, Partial Permanent Disability coverage for Members;
 - (b) provide death benefits for Members aged 70 years and above; and
 - (c) provide financial assistance to Members facing hardship arising from illness or incapacity, where such hardship is necessitated by serious and / or life-threatening illness or injury, or for such other reasons as may be approved by the Bar Council²;
- (5) Since its introduction in 2005, the LawCare Fund Levy has remained at RM100. In recent years, the LawCare Fund has faced increasing financial pressure which has materially impacted its sustainability. This is attributed to:
 - (a) substantial increases in group insurance premiums over time, with the annual premium rising from RM63.09 in 2016 to RM99.36 for the 2025 renewal (inclusive of 8% service tax), representing an increase of approximately 57% over nine years; and
 - (b) a significant increase in the number of deaths of Members aged 70 years and above. The average annual number of deaths in this age group has increased from 9.5 (2015–2018) to 16.3 (2019–2024)³;
- (6) In 2020 and 2021, the Bar Council waived the collection of the LawCare Levy to ease the financial burden on Members during the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, the LawCare Fund recorded a deficit of approximately RM2.2 million in 2020 and RM2.5 million in 2021. Collection of the RM100 LawCare Levy resumed in 2022; however, the Fund continued to record deficits in 2022, 2024 and 2025;
- (7) Set out in the following table are the financial projections for the period of 2026 to 2031, which illustrates that, under the existing LawCare Fund Levy of RM100, the LawCare Fund is projected to record a deficit and a negative fund by 2031:

² Rule (3) of the LawCare Rules.

³ The number of Members aged 70 years and above increased from 399 in 2015 to 981 as at 19 November 2025.

Opt 1 Normal Levy RM 100	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Estimated Budget					
	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
	RM	RM	RM	RM	RM	RM	RM	RM	RM	RM
Total Income	2,338,711	2,549,866	2,680,219	2,746,175	2,835,786	2,915,150	2,996,894	3,081,091	3,167,814	3,257,138
Total Expenses	(2,845,631)	(2,387,839)	(3,023,571)	(2,874,212)	(3,241,833)	(3,498,816)	(3,781,498)	(4,092,448)	(4,434,493)	(4,810,742)
Surplus / (Deficit)	(506,920)	162,027	(343,352)	(128,037)	(406,047)	(583,666)	(784,604)	(1,011,357)	(1,266,679)	(1,553,604)
Cash available @ 31 Dec	4,743,579	4,905,606	4,562,254	4,434,217	4,028,170	3,444,504	2,659,900	1,648,543	381,864	(1,171,740)

- (8) These projections indicate that, under the current RM100 levy, the LawCare Fund requires review and adjustment before 2031 in order to remain solvent;
- (9) Set out in the following table are the projections based on the proposed increased levy amount which demonstrate that such increase would materially enhance the sustainability of the Fund and extend its viability over the medium term:

No	Levy Charged	Year When Fund Will Be in Deficit	Sustainability
(1)	RM100	2031	5 years
(2)	RM120	2033	7 years
(3)	RM130	2034	8 years
(4)	RM150	2037	11 years
(5)	RM175	2041	15 years

- (10) Over the years, the Malaysian Bar has also provided assistance to Members affected by natural disasters, which may cause serious financial hardship by adversely affecting Members' homes, offices, livelihood or ability to practise. Such assistance was provided without drawing the monies from the LawCare Fund;
- (11) In practice, this has involved the issuance of circulars to Members calling for donations or contributions, either generally⁴ or in response to specific natural disaster events⁵;
- (12) The quantum disbursed to individual Members varied from RM266.13 to RM2,000.00, depending on the amount of donations or contributions received from Members;
- (13) The Malaysian Bar disburses such money with the assistance of the relevant state bars, which are also tasked with identifying the affected Members;
- (14) While these initiatives, which have been in place since at least 2013⁶, reflect the Bar's commitment to Members' welfare, reliance on ad hoc fundraising and voluntary contributions presents inherent limitations in terms of predictability of occurrence, timeliness and sustainability of assistance, particularly where urgent relief is required or where disaster events occur with increasing frequency;

And whereas:

⁴ Circular No 450/2025 | [Appeal for Donations to Assist Persons Affected by Floods](#), Dated 9 December 2025. Accessed at mybar.my/417I3xv.

⁵ Circular No 004/2015 | [Appeal for Donations to Assist Persons Affected by Floods](#), Dated 8 January 2015. Accessed at mybar.my/4tY2Jfw.

⁶ Circular No 266/2013 | [Appeal for Donations to Assist Members Affected by Floods](#), Dated 13 December 2013. Accessed at mybar.my/409aG3T.

- (15) The 2005 Resolution and the existing LawCare Rules do not expressly provide for the use of the LawCare Fund to grant financial assistance to Members affected by natural disasters;
- (16) It is therefore desirable to expand the scope of objects of the LawCare Fund to include provision of financial assistance to Members affected by natural disasters;
- (17) It is further desirable to ensure that such expanded use of the LawCare Fund is structured, ring-fenced and does not adversely affect the sustainability of the Fund; and
- (18) It is therefore proposed that the maximum amount that may be utilised from the LawCare Fund for the purpose of providing assistance arising from natural disasters shall not exceed RM100,000 in any financial year and that the maximum amount payable to any individual Member under this expanded use of the LawCare Fund shall not exceed RM3,000 per Member per annum.

Therefore, it is hereby resolved that:

- (A) The LawCare Fund Levy be increased from RM100 to RM130 per annum, with effect upon approval at the Annual General Meeting of the Malaysian Bar; and
- (B) Subject to the passing of Resolution (A) above, the use of the LawCare Fund be expanded to permit the provision of financial assistance to Members affected by natural disasters, subject to terms, limits and conditions as may be prescribed by the Bar Council in accordance with the LawCare Rules, provided that the maximum amount that may be utilised from the Fund for such purpose shall not exceed RM100,000 in any financial year, and that the maximum amount payable to any individual Member under this expanded use shall not exceed RM3,000 per Member per annum.