

**Public Policy Position  
HJR O**

The Family Law Section is a voluntary membership section of the State Bar of Michigan, comprised of 2,602 members. The Family Law Section is not the State Bar of Michigan and the position expressed herein is that of the Family Section only and not the State Bar of Michigan. The Board of Commissioners of the State Bar of Michigan has reviewed HJR O and determined that SBM will take no position.

The Family Law Section has a public policy decision-making body with 21 members. On April 7, 2024, the Section adopted its position after a discussion and vote at a scheduled meeting. 14 members voted in favor of the Section's position, 3 members voted against this position, 2 members abstained, 2 members did not vote.

**Oppose**

**Explanation:**

The Section opposes removal of "incumbent" designations on ballots primarily out of concern for maintaining consistency among family court cases, and the concept of "one family, one judge". Experienced family court judges lead to better, more consistent outcomes, and removal of "incumbent" designation from ballots may result in election of new judges with little or no family law experience, often based on candidate name alone.

**Contact Person:** James Chryssikos

**Email:** [jwc@chryssikoslaw.com](mailto:jwc@chryssikoslaw.com)