

**ANIMAL LAW SECTION  
Public Policy Position  
HB 5441**

The Animal Law Section is a voluntary membership section of the State Bar of Michigan, comprised of 240 members. The Animal Law Section is not the State Bar of Michigan and the position expressed herein is that of the Animal Law Section only and not the State Bar of Michigan. To date, the State Bar does not have a position on this item.

The Animal Law Section has a public policy decision-making body with 15 members. On February 21, 2018, the Section adopted its position after discussion an electronic discussion and vote. 11 members voted in favor of the Section's position on HB 5441, 0 members voted against this position, 0 members abstained, 4 members did not vote.

**The Animal Law Section Opposes HB 5441.**

**Explanation:**

HB 5441, if enacted, would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to prohibit the DNR from expending any state resources on the management of Michigan's wolf population. This effort to take the DNR's authority to regulate the wolf population could result in an "open season" on Michigan's wolves. In the 2014 general election, Michigan voters rejected two referendums that would have allowed Michigan's small population of wolves to be hunted. The Section opposes HB 5441 and this effort to strip the DNR of its authority and circumvent the will of Michigan voters.

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