

**Public Policy Position  
HB 4496**

The Animal Law Section is a voluntary membership section of the State Bar of Michigan, comprised of 216 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 June 28, 2019, the Section adopted its position after a discussion and vote at a scheduled meeting. 6 members voted in favor of the Section's position on HB 4496, 0 members voted against this position, 0 members abstained, 9 members did not vote.

**Support**

**Explanation:**

The Animal Law Section supports this bill, which protects dogs and cats used in research. The bill would require that once they are no longer required for research, research dogs and cats shall be offered to an animal protection shelter so that they may be adopted into a home unless euthanizing the animal is required for health or safety reasons. If animals must be used in research, they deserve a chance at living the remainder of their lives in loving homes once they have provided such service.

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