

**Public Policy Position
HB 5185**

The Animal Law Section is a voluntary membership section of the State Bar of Michigan, comprised of 244 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 March 11, 2022, the Section adopted its position after an electronic discussion and vote. 13 members voted in favor of the Section's position, 0 members voted against this position, 0 members abstained, 2 members did not vote.

Oppose

Explanation:

The Animal Law Section opposes HB 5185, which would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (MCL §§ 324.40102 and 324.40111a) to allow for the feeding and baiting of elk and white-tailed deer. This bill is intended to circumvent the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) restrictions on feeding and baiting deer and elk (https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-350-79136_79772_79773_83479---,00.html) in its effort to combat chronic wasting disease. The DNR policy is based on sound science, and this is an issue that should be left to the DNR's expert judgment.

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