

Public Policy Position
HB 5358 – HB 5360

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.

Support

Explanation:

The Animal Law Section supports HB 5358, HB 5359, and HB 5360. These tie-barred bills would amend the Michigan Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to provide for licensing and regulation of commercial hunting and sport fishing guides and would give the Natural Resources Commission exclusive authority to regulate sport fishing.

The Natural Resources Commission is in the best position to provide regulation and oversight of Michigan's fish and wildlife for the benefit of Michigan residents under the Public Trust Doctrine, to which the Department of Natural Resources subscribes (https://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/Wildlife_GPS_Strategic_Plan_434049_7.pdf). These bills provide for appropriate regulation of commercial hunting and sport fishing guides, including prohibiting anyone convicted of a felony or a violation regarding the taking of fish and wildlife from obtaining a guide license for a three-year period.

Contact Person: Ann M. Griffin

Email: annmgriffin@hotmail.com