

**Public Policy Position
SB 0037**

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 SB 0037, 0 members voted against this position, 0 members abstained, 9 members did not vote.

Oppose

Explanation:

The Animal Law Section is opposed to SB 0037. If passed, this bill would take authority away from the Natural Resources Commission to issue an order regarding deer and elk feeding after consultation with MDARD and would allow elk and deer feeding during open hunting season on those animals. The purpose of giving the NRC control over this issue is to try to control the spread of chronic wasting disease by giving the NRC authority to restrict or prohibit feeding and baiting when necessary. Taking away that authority and allowing this unsportsmanlike practice could have devastating consequences for Michigan's deer and elk populations.

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