

## ANIMAL LAW SECTION

Respectfully submits the following position on:

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SJR G

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The Animal Law Section is not the State Bar of Michigan itself, but rather a Section which members of the State Bar choose voluntarily to join, based on common professional interest.

The position expressed is that of the Animal Law Section only and is not the position of the State Bar of Michigan.

To date, the State Bar does not have a position on this matter.

The total membership of the Animal Law Section is 235.

The position was adopted after an electronic discussion and vote. The number of members in the decision-making body is 15. The number who voted in favor to this position was 10. The number who voted opposed to this position was 0. The number who abstained from voting was 1.

**Report on Public Policy Position****Name of section:**

Animal Law Section

**Contact person:**

Meredith Sharp

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**Bill Number:**

[SJR G](#) (Hildenbrand) Natural resources; hunting; right to hunt, fish, and harvest wildlife; recognize in constitution. Amends the state constitution by adding sec. 28 to art. I.

**Date position was adopted:**

April 11, 2017

**Process used to take the ideological position:**

Position adopted after an electronic discussion and vote.

**Number of members in the decision-making body:**

15

**Number who voted in favor and opposed to the position:**

10 Voted for position

0 Voted against position

1 Abstained from vote

4 Did not vote (absent)

**Position:**

Oppose

**Explanation of the position, including any recommended amendments:**

This joint resolution proposes an amendment to the state constitution of 1963, by adding section 28 to article I, to recognize a right to hunt, fish, and harvest wildlife.

The council opposes this resolution. Only a small percentage (estimated at 15 percent) of the state population hunts. This resolution would single out for special recognition, and enshrine among Michigan citizens' basic rights, a consumptive pastime that harms our state's natural resources and is enjoyed by a small population of people. All Michigan residents already have the opportunity to legally hunt, fish, and harvest wildlife; there is nothing to be gained by elevating it to a Constitutional right.

**The text of any legislation, court rule, or administrative regulation that is the subject of or referenced in this report.**

<http://legislature.mi.gov/doc.aspx?2017-SJR-G>