

**Public Policy Position
SB 0120**

The Children's Law Section is a voluntary membership section of the State Bar of Michigan, comprised of 484 members. The Children's Law Section is not the State Bar of Michigan and the position expressed herein is that of the Children's Law Section only and not the State Bar of Michigan. To date, the State Bar does not have a position on this item.

The Children's Law Section has a public policy decision-making body with 19 members. On March 16, 2023, the Section adopted its position after a discussion and vote at a scheduled meeting. 10 members voted in favor of the Section's position, 1 member voted against this position, 1 member abstained, 7 members did not vote.

Support with Recommended Amendments**Explanation:**

Children's Law Section supports SB 120 and efforts to eliminate juvenile life without parole. However, the Section does recommend an amendment to the bill, namely that in subsection (9)(b) the first sentence which currently reads "The prisoner may be represented at the interview by an individual of the prisoner's choice" by changed to read "The prisoner may have present at the interview an individual of the prisoner's choice." The Section was concerned about the current wording allowing a non-attorney to represent a prisoner during an interview with a member of the parole board, which could be the unauthorized practice of law.

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