

FAMILY LAW SECTION

Respectfully submits the following position on:

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SB 0257

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The Family 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 Family Law Section only and is not the position of the State Bar of Michigan.

The State Bar's position in the matter is to support the bill with an amendment to extend the notice period by five days of service.

The total membership of the Family Law Section is 3,047.

The position was adopted after discussion and vote at a scheduled meeting. The number of members in the decision-making body is 21. The number who voted in favor of this position was 11. The number who voted opposed to this position was 0. The number who abstained from voting was 3.

Report on Public Policy Position

Name of section:

Family Law Section

Contact person:

Rebecca Shiemke

E-Mail:

rshiemke@mplp.org

Bill Number:

[SB 0257](#) (Emmons) Crime victims; other; address confidentiality program for victims of domestic violence crimes; create. Creates new act.

Date position was adopted:

June 6, 2015

Process used to take the ideological position:

Position adopted after discussion and vote at a scheduled meeting.

Number of members in the decision-making body:

21

Number who voted in favor and opposed to the position:

11 Voted for position

0 Voted against position

3 Abstained from vote

7 Did not vote (absent)

Position:

Support with recommended amendments

Explanation of the position, including any recommended amendments:

SB 257 is a reintroduction of last year's HB 5654. The bill creates an address confidentiality program within the attorney general's office. A party in need of protection as defined in the act could apply to participate in the program, which would require the individual to be served through the attorney general's office. This would provide a needed remedy for individuals who have no other means to furnish an alternative address for service. The Family Law Section was concerned that the time needed to relay pleadings may delay the receipt of those pleadings, and recommends that the bill be amended to extend the notice period by five days for service under this act. The Family Law Section supports this bill with that amendment.

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?2015-SB-0257>