

FAMILY LAW SECTION

Respectfully submits the following position on:

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HB 4413

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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 2,945.

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 18. The number who voted opposed to this position was 0. The number who abstained from voting was 0.

Report on Public Policy Position

Name of Section:

Family Law Section

Contact person:

Kent Weichmann

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Bill Number:

[HB 4413](#) (Hovey-Wright) Crime victims; other; address confidentiality program for victims of domestic violence crimes; create. Creates new act.

Date position was adopted:

April 11, 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:

18 Voted for position

0 Voted against position

0 Abstained from vote

3 Did not vote (absent)

Position:

Support and Amend

Explanation of the position, including any recommended amendments:

HB 4413 is a reintroduction of a bill we supported last term, with a proposed amendment. It sets up a program in the Attorney General's office to provide to provide a means of receiving service for domestic violence victims without revealing their home address. For some victims, the usual alternative addresses, such as a relative or a post office box, are not feasible.

We were concerned about the additional time that relaying pleadings would take, and recommend that the statute provide for an additional 5 days of notice if the agency is the designated address and to adjust other pleading time standards accordingly.

The Family Law Section supports this bill with those amendments.

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-HB-4413>