

## FAMILY LAW SECTION

Respectfully submits the following position on:

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SB 0925

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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.

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

The total membership of the Family Law Section is 2,940.

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 to this position was 14. The number who voted opposed to this position was 0.

## Report on Public Policy Position

**Name of section:**

Family Law Section

**Contact person:**

Kent Weichmann

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**Bill Number:**

[SB 0925](#) (Jones) Children; adoption; advertise for, solicit, or recruit prospective adoptive or biological parents or guardians to participate in certain transfers of a child; prohibit under certain circumstances. Amends sec. 55, ch. X of [1939 PA 288](#) (MCL [710.55](#)).

**Date position was adopted:**

June 4, 2016

**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:**

14 Voted for position

0 Voted against position

0 Abstained from vote

7 Did not vote (absent)

**Position:**

Oppose

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

SB 925 limits who may advertise adoption services. The bill was aimed at the practice of secondary placement (rehoming), where adoptive parents unhappy with their adoption attempt to place the child with a new family without court involvement. Unfortunately, the bill as written also applies to initial adoptions and prevents birth parents and adoptive parents from accessing common web based profile sites. The Family Law Section opposes this bill as written but offers to work with the sponsor to revise the bill so that it accomplishes its goals without encroaching on appropriate conduct.

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?2016-SB-0925>