

## Report on Public Policy Position

**Name of Committee:**

Domestic Violence Committee

**Contact Person:**

Rebecca Shiemke

**E-mail:**

[rshiemke@lsscm.org](mailto:rshiemke@lsscm.org)

**Bill Number:**

[HB 6101](#) (McMillin) Crime victims; rights; names and addresses of minors who have been victims of child abuse or sex crimes; allow to be exempted from disclosure under freedom of information act. Amends sec. 13 of [1976 PA 442](#) (MCL [15.243](#)).

**Date position was adopted:**

June 21, 2010

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

Position adopted after an electronic discussion and vote

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

20

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

10 Voted for position

0 Voted against position

3 Abstained from vote

7 Did not vote

**Position:**

Support

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

HB 6101 would amend the Freedom of Information Act to permit a public body to exempt from disclosure law enforcement investigating records that reveal specified identifying information in cases of child abuse, criminal sexual conduct, sexual assault or molestation against a minor. The committee supports the bill because it would protect minor victims' names or other identifying information from public disclosure. It would prohibit the victims' names from being released to the press or the general public. The bill would remove one barrier to minor victims who may be reluctant to cooperate with a criminal prosecution for fear that the case would become a matter of public record and reveal the minor's identity.

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?2010-HB-6101>

**FOR LEGISLATIVE ISSUES ONLY:**

This position falls within the following Keller-permissible category:

- The regulation and discipline of attorneys
- The improvement of the functioning of the courts
- ✓ The availability of legal services to society
- The regulation of attorney trust accounts
- The regulation of the legal profession, including the education, the ethics, the competency, and the integrity of the profession.

**Keller-permissible explanation:**

This position is Keller-permissible because it would support the participation of minors in criminal prosecutions of crimes against them by assuring that their identity will be protected from public disclosure.