

CRIMINAL JURISPRUDENCE & PRACTICE COMMITTEE

Respectfully submits the following position on:

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HB 5529, HB 5531

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The Criminal Jurisprudence & Practice Committee is comprised of members appointed by the President of the State Bar of Michigan.

The position expressed is that of the Criminal Jurisprudence & Practice Committee. The State Bar of Michigan has authorized the Criminal Jurisprudence & Practice Committee to advocate its position.

The State Bar of Michigan's position on this matter is to support.

The total membership of the Criminal Jurisprudence & Practice Committee is 14.

The position was adopted after discussion and vote at a scheduled meeting. The number of members in the decision-making body is 14. The number who voted in favor to this position was 9. The number who voted opposed to this position was 1.

Report on Public Policy Position

Name of Committee:

Criminal Jurisprudence and Practice

Contact persons:

Nichole Jongsma Derks

J. Kevin McKay

E-Mail/Phone:

nderks@fosterswift.com

kevin.mckay@kentcountymi.gov

Bill Number:

[HB 5529](#) (Jenkins) Courts, drug court; Veterans, benefits. Courts; drug court; providing information to veteran regarding veteran benefits; require. Amends sec. 1074 of 1961 PA 236 (MCL 600.1074).

[HB 5531](#) (Kurtz) Courts, other; Veterans, benefits. Courts; other; veteran completing sobriety court program to meet with veteran service organization or county veteran counselor as part of program; require. Amends 1961 PA 236 (MCL 600.101 - 600.9947) by adding sec. 1085

Date position was adopted:

June 12, 2014

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:

14

Number who voted in favor and opposed to the position:

9 Voted for position

1 Voted against position

0 Abstained from vote

4 Did not vote

Position:

Support

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?2014-HB-5529>

<http://legislature.mi.gov/doc.aspx?2014-HB-5531>

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:

The committee agreed that these bills were Keller permissible in that they impact the functioning of the courts and the availability of legal services to society.

HB 5529 directly affects a drug court's handling of veteran defendants, in requiring the individual to meet with "a member of a veteran service organization or county veteran counselor" before successfully completing the drug court program.

HB 5531 requires the same final meeting with an appropriate organization for the completion of the sobriety court program.