



Report on Public Policy Position

Name of Section:

Michigan Judicial Conference

Contact Person:

Sara J. Smolenski

Email:

sara.smolenski@kentcounty.org

Proposed Court Rule Amendment:

2001-04 - Proposed Amendment of Canon 7 of the Michigan Code of Judicial Conduct

Date position was adopted:

May 21, 2004

Process used to take the ideological position:

Michigan Judicial Conference Board Meeting Discussion, Motion, Voting

Number of members in the decision-making body:

Eighteen

Number who voted in favor and opposed to the position:

Seventeen in favor, one opposed

FOR SECTIONS ONLY:

- ✓ This subject matter of this position is within the jurisdiction of the section.
- ✓ The position was adopted in accordance with the Section's bylaws.
- ✓ The requirements of SBM Bylaw Article VIII have been satisfied.

If the boxes above are checked, SBM will notify the Section when this notice is received, at which time the Section may advocate the position.

Position:

The Michigan Judicial Conference does not support the proposed Amendment of Canon 7 of the Michigan Code of Judicial Conduct on the basis that it does not change anything. The Michigan Judicial Conference does support the adoption of an order that prohibits the payment of any money by a candidate or a candidate's committee to an endorsing organization for the purpose of obtaining an endorsement or the cost of distributing information concerning the endorsement.

The text (may be provided by hyperlink) of any legislation, court rule, or administrative regulation that is the subject of or referenced in this report:

<http://courts.michigan.gov/supremecourt/Resources/Administrative/2001-04.PDF>

RECOMMEND STATE BAR ACTION ON THIS ISSUE:

Arguments for the position:

Candidates should not pay for endorsements.

Arguments against the position (if any):

N/A

If the State Bar currently has a position on this subject matter, state the position, and an analysis of whether the recommended position and the current State Bar position are in conflict.

N/A

Fiscal implications of the recommended policy to the State Bar of Michigan:

None known.