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August 3, 2011

The Honorable Kurt Heise
State Representative
State Capitol
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909-7514

Re: HB 4647 Expert Witness Testimony

Dear Representative Heise:

At its July 22, 2011 meeting, the State Bar of Michigan's Board of Commissioners voted to **support HB 4647 in concept**. In its consideration, the Board reviewed recommendations from the State Bar's Civil Procedure and Courts Committee and Criminal Jurisprudence and Practice Committee.

The Board recognized in its deliberation the importance of effectively and efficiently utilizing existing and developing technology in the court room. However, consistent with historical positions, the Board requests the changes be made to facilitate the use of expert witness testimony by video communication in a court rule or rule of evidence through a request to the Michigan Supreme Court.

If you would like to discuss this position in further detail or have questions, please contact me directly at your convenience.

Sincerely,

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CC. W. Anthony Jenkins, President
Nell Kuhnmuensch, Governmental Consultant Services, Inc.