

ELDER LAW & DISABILITY RIGHTS SECTION
Respectfully submits the following position on:

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SB 0636

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The Elder Law & Disability Rights 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 Elder Law & Disability Rights 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 Elder Law & Disability Rights Section is 1,771.

The position was adopted after a discussion and vote at a scheduled meeting. The number of members in the decision-making body is 20. The number who voted in favor to this position was 19. The number who voted opposed to this position was 0.

Report on Public Policy Position

Name of section:

Elder Law & Disability Rights Section

Contact person:

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Bill Number:

[SB 0636](#) (Nofs) Communications; telecommunications; general amendments; provide for. Amends secs. 304, 310, 313, 315, 317, 320 & 502 of [1991 PA 179](#) (MCL [484.2304](#) et seq.).

Date position was adopted:

November 2, 2013

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:

20

Number who voted in favor and opposed to the position:

19 Voted for position

0 Voted against position

0 Abstained from vote

1 Did not vote

Position:

Oppose

Explanation of the position, including any recommended amendments:

The bill would permit telephone companies to terminate land-line service to a region if there is adequate alternative cellular phone service. This would negatively affect the Section's constituency -- older persons and persons with disabilities -- because they are accustomed to using land line phones and many of them would have difficulty adapting to and affording cellular phones.

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?2013-SB-0636>