



Report on Public Policy Position

Name of Section:

Family Law Section

Contact Person:

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Bill Number:

HB 4741 (Bieda) Family law; personal protection orders; prohibition against harming animals owned by petitioner; include in personal protection order. Amends sec. 2950 of 1961 PA 236 (MCL 600.2950).

Date position was adopted:

June 2, 2007

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:

21

Number who voted in favor and opposed to the position:

14 Voted for position

4 Voted against position

0 Abstained from vote

3 Did not vote

Position:

Support

Explanation of the position, including any recommended amendments:

HB 4741 would amend the PPO act to allow the court to put provisions in a PPO protecting the petitioner's pets from hostile acts by the respondent. This is one of the methods used by abusers to control and intimidate their victims, and this dynamic is not addressed by animal cruelty statutes. The Family Law Council supports this bill.

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://legislature.mi.gov/doc.aspx?2007-HB-4741>