

Report on Public Policy Position

Name of committee:

Criminal Jurisprudence & Practice Committee

Contact persons:

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Bill Number:

HB 5601 (Jackson) Courts; juries; individuals who fail to return jury questionnaires; ensure continued eligibility for jury service. Amends sec. 1313 of **1961 PA 236** (MCL **600.1313**).

Date position was adopted:

February 25, 2010

Process used to take the ideological position:

Position adopted after discussion and e-vote.

Number of members in the decision-making body:

19

Number who voted in favor and opposed to the position:

15 Voted for position
0 Voted against position
4 Did not vote

Position:

Support

Explanation of the position, including any recommended amendments:

The committee voted unanimously to support HB 5601 as eliminating a possible loop hole in the existing jury selection process. This legislation would allow the jury board to still include as possible jurors persons who had failed to return their questionnaire.

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?2009-HB-5601>

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:

Ensuring the availability of a diverse and adequate jury pool is essential to the effective management of the courts and case management and to allow for the constitutional right to a jury trial.