

Public Policy Position
HB 4254 and SB 127

The Animal Law Section is a voluntary membership section of the State Bar of Michigan, comprised of 251 members. The Animal Law Section is not the State Bar of Michigan and the position expressed herein is that of the Animal Law Section only and not the State Bar of Michigan. To date, the State Bar does not have a position on this item.

The Animal Law Section has a public policy decision-making body with 15 members. On May 12, 2025, the Section adopted its position after an electronic discussion and vote. 13 members voted in favor of the Section's position, 0 members voted against this position, 0 members abstained, 2 members did not vote.

Support

Explanation:

The Animal Law Section supports HB 4254/SB 127, which would prohibit research facilities from performing painful or distressing experiments on dogs and cats. Research shows that the public objects to the use of taxpayer dollars for this type of experimentation. The bill is particularly focused on invasive, fatal experiments conducted on dogs at Wayne State University. That research has failed to produce any human-relevant results in the decades that it has been performed. There are human relevant research options available, such as human tissue and stem cell studies, clinical trials, and population studies, making painful and invasive experiments on dogs and cats unnecessary and wasteful.

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