

**Public Policy Position  
SB 223**

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 State Bar of Michigan Animal Law Section supports SB 223, which would require Michigan research facilities to submit an annual report to MDARD on the number of research dogs and cats owned, used for research, and released. This modest reporting requirement will improve transparency and accountability and will allow MDARD to more effectively provide oversight of compliance with Teddy's Law, enacted in 2023 to require research facilities to offer adoptable retired research animals to registered animal protection shelters or employees for adoption instead of euthanizing them.

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