

**Public Policy Position  
SB 0209 – SB 0212, SB 0246**

The Family Law Section is a voluntary membership section of the State Bar of Michigan, comprised of 2,683 members. The Family Law Section is not the State Bar of Michigan and the position expressed herein is that of the Family Law Section only and not the State Bar of Michigan. To date, the State Bar does not have a position on this item.

The Family Law Section has a public policy decision-making body with 21 members. On April 1, 2023, the Section adopted its position after a discussion and vote at a scheduled meeting. 9 members voted in favor of the Section’s position, 5 members voted against this position, 2 members abstained, 5 members did not vote.

**Support**

**Explanation:**

The Section supports the bills as drafted to amend the statute and make 18 the minimum age to marry, without exceptions. Teen marriages are heavily tied to high divorce rates, lower education, lower income, poverty, mental health issues and more. Marriage before 18 also can be the result of coerced marriage.

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