

FAMILY LAW SECTION

Respectfully submits the following position on:

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HB 4028

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The Family Law Section is not the State Bar of Michigan itself, but rather a Section which members of the State Bar choose voluntarily to join, based on common professional interest.

The position expressed is that of the Family Law Section only and is not the position of the State Bar of Michigan.

To date, the State Bar does not have a position on this matter.

The total membership of the Family Law Section is 3,084.

The position was adopted after a discussion and vote at a scheduled meeting. The number of members in the decision-making body is 21. The number who voted in favor of this position was 13. The number who voted opposed to this position was 7.

Report on Public Policy Position

Name of Section:

Family Law Section

Contact person:

Kent Weichmann

E-Mail:

weichmannk@att.net

Bill Number:

[HB 4028](#) (Kosowski) Family law; paternity; responsible father registry; create. Amends sec. 2805 of [1978 PA 368](#) (MCL [333.2805](#)) & adds secs. 2893, 2893a, 2893b, 2893c, 2893d & 2893e.

Date position was adopted:

January 24, 2015

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:

13 Voted for position

7 Voted against position

0 Abstained from vote

1 Did not vote (absent)

Position:

Support

Explanation of the position, including any recommended amendments:

This bill creates a Responsible Father Registry. A man who wishes to have notice of adoption proceedings regarding a child he may have fathered must register before or within five days after the child's birth. In addition, if the identity and whereabouts of an unregistered putative father are known, he must be served with notice of a mother's intended release or consent to adoption, and he has until five days after the notice or the child's birth to register. If a man does not register, he is deemed to have waived his interest in custody of the child and the adoption may proceed. The goal of this bill is to achieve permanency in adoptions. The Family Law Section supports this bill.

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?2015-HB-4028>