

**Report on Public Policy Position****Name of section:**

Family Law Section

**Contact person:**

Kent Weichmann

**E-Mail:**[weichmannk@att.net](mailto:weichmannk@att.net)**Bill Number:**

[SB 0549](#) (Hunter) Family law; marriage and divorce; premarital education; require statement of whether parties have received premarital education in marriage certificate. Amends sec. 4 of [1887 PA 128](#) (MCL [551.104](#)).

**Date position was adopted:**

November 5, 2011

**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:**

19 Voted for position

0 Voted against position

0 Abstained from vote

2 Did not vote

**Position:**

Oppose

**Explanation of the position, including any recommended amendments:**

SB 549 would require marriage certificates to state whether the parties had completed premarital education. The Family Law Section could see no reason to stigmatize couples based on their completion of a state approved premarital education course. If the purpose of this provision is to track the effects of premarital education, this could be done via the documents at the county clerk's office. The Family Law Section opposes 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?2011-SB-0549>