p 517-346-6300

April 30, 2013

p 800-968-1442

The Honorable Steven Bieda

f 517-482-6248

State Senator

State Capitol

P.O. Box 30036

Lansing, MI 48909-7536

306 Townsend Street

Michael Franck Buildin

Lansing, MI

48933-2012

The Honorable Jon Switalski

State Representative

State Capitol

P.O. Box 30014

Lansing, MI 48909-7514

Re: SB 0098 – Wrongful Imprisonment

HB 4451 – Wrongful Imprisonment

Dear Senator Bieda and Representative Switalski:

At its April 26 meeting, the State Bar of Michigan's Board of Commissioners unanimously voted to support the bills with the following amendments:

- (1) Change the language found in Section 4(C) and Section 5(C) from "DNA or equally reliable scientific or physical evidence" to "DNA or other reliable evidence."
- (2) Remove the following language from the bill: "from which the plaintiff's judgment of conviction was entered."
- (3) Addition of a section authorizing that persons who are released from prisons based on exoneration are eligible for all the services available to those persons who are paroled.

If you would like to discuss this position in further detail or have questions, please contact me directly at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Peter Cunningham

Director of Governmental Relations

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CC. Bruce A. Courtade, President
Nell Kuhnmuench, Governmental Consultant Services, Inc.