

ANIMAL LAW SECTION  
Respectfully submits the following position on:

\*

HB 4300

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The Animal 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 Animal 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 Animal Law Section is 164.

The position was adopted after an electronic discussion and vote. The number of members in the decision-making body is 15. The number who voted in favor to this position was 14. The number who voted opposed to this position was 0.

## Report on Public Policy Position

**Name of section:**

Animal Law Section

**Contact person:**

Donald Garlit

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**Bill Number:**

[HB 4300](#) (Kandrevas) Crimes; animals; ownership, possession, breeding, sale, and importing of nonhuman primates as pets; prohibit under certain circumstances and provide penalty. Amends [1931 PA 328](#) (MCL [750.1](#) - [750.568](#)) by adding sec. 70a.

**Date position was adopted:**

June 3, 2013

**Process used to take the ideological position:**

Position adopted after an electronic discussion and vote.

**Number of members in the decision-making body:**

15

**Number who voted in favor and opposed to the position:**

14 Voted for position

0 Voted against position

0 Abstained from vote

1 Did not vote

**Position:**

Support

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

The Animal Law Section is in support of the proposed legislation to limit the ownership of non-human primates for the following reasons: Non-human primates 1) are wild animals and should not be kept as pets by private individuals outside of their natural habitat, 2) may expose humans to dangerous diseases, 3) can be extremely dangerous and life-threatening animals posing a threat to public safety when kept by private individuals, and 4) the average pet owner cannot provide the specialized care that these animals require. The proposed legislation is consistent with existing Michigan law which presently prohibits the ownership of many dangerous wild animals.

**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?2013-HB-4300>