

PRISONS & CORRECTIONS SECTION
Respectfully submits the following position on:

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SB 0909

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The Prisons & Corrections 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 Prisons & Corrections 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 Prisons & Corrections Section is 140.

The position was adopted after discussion and vote at a scheduled meeting. The number of members in the decision-making body is 15. The number who voted in favor to this position was 10. The number who voted opposed to this position was 0.

Report on Public Policy Position

Name of Section:

Prisons & Corrections Section

Contact person:

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Bill Number:

[SB 0909](#) (Proos) Corrections; state facilities; number of prisoners allowed at correctional facilities; limit and require remaining prisoners to be placed in jails and other secure facilities. Amends [1953 PA 232](#) (MCL [791.201](#) - [791.285](#)) by adding sec. 20k

Date position was adopted:

May 3, 2014

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:

15

Number who voted in favor and opposed to the position:

10 Voted for position

0 Voted against position

0 Abstained from vote

5 Did not vote

Position:

Oppose

Explanation of the position, including any recommended amendments:

While the Section is in favor of reducing the prisoner population when it can be done without risk to public safety, we oppose an arbitrary cap on the population without exploring alternatives to incarceration, a review of Michigan's sentencing guidelines and practice, and the possibility of safely paroling those prisoners with a high probability of parole who are past their Earliest Release Dates or are parolable lifers. In addition, the Section opposes any efforts to partly privatize Michigan's prison system or pass additional costs to the counties, who may need state resources to provide rehabilitative programming or other services to state prisoners.

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?2014-SB-0909>