

SBM

S T A T E B A R O F M I C H I G A N

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October 7, 2005

The Honorable Shirley M. Johnson  
State Senator  
State Capitol  
P.O. Box 30036  
Lansing, MI 48909-7536

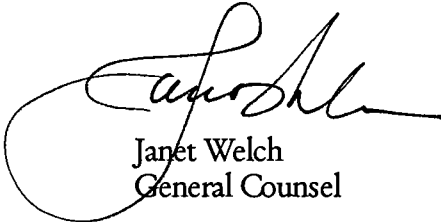
**Re: SB 120 Domestic Violence Evidence**

Dear Senator Johnson:

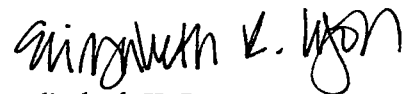
At its September 21, 2005 meeting, the State Bar of Michigan's Board of Commissioners unanimously voted to **oppose in principle**<sup>1</sup> SB 120. The State Bar's opposition is based on a long-standing position that changes in evidentiary rules should not be addressed in statute but rather by the Michigan Supreme Court in court rule.

If you would like to discuss this position in further detail or have questions, please contact Janet Welch directly at (517) 346-6375, [jwelch@mail.michbar.org](mailto:jwelch@mail.michbar.org); or Elizabeth Lyon directly at (517) 346-6325, [elyon@mail.michbar.org](mailto:elyon@mail.michbar.org).

Sincerely,



Janet Welch  
General Counsel



Elizabeth K. Lyon  
Public Policy Program Analyst

CC. Thomas W. Cranmer, President  
John T. Berry, Executive Director  
Nell Kuhnmuensch, Governmental Consultant Services, Inc.

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<sup>1</sup> Definition of oppose in principle: Pending legislation that the State Bar opposes but is not the subject of active lobbying effort. The State Bar is on record on this position and will explain it upon request.