

## Report on Public Policy Position

**Name of committee:**

Civil Procedure and Courts Committee

**Contact person:**

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**Bill Number:**

[HB 4931](#) (Lemmons) Courts; juries; lists of persons available for creating juror pools; expand. Amends sec. 1304 of [1961 PA 236](#) (MCL [600.1304](#)) & adds secs. 1310a, 1310b, 1310c & 1310d.

[HB 4932](#) (Lemmons) Courts; juries; names and addresses of persons receiving unemployment benefits; allow to be disclosed to jury boards for selecting jury pools. Amends 1936 (Ex Sess) PA 1 (MCL [421.1](#) - [421.75](#)) by adding sec. 54d.

[HB 4933](#) (Lemmons) Courts; juries; names of persons receiving public assistance; allow to be disclosed to jury boards for selecting jury pools. Amends sec. 64 of [1939 PA 280](#) (MCL [400.64](#)).

[HB 4934](#) (Lemmons) Courts; juries; names and addresses of taxpayers; allow to be disclosed to jury boards for selecting jury pools. Amends sec. 28 of [1941 PA 122](#) (MCL [205.28](#)).

[HB 4755](#) (Cushingberry) Courts; juries; names and addresses of taxpayers; allow to be given to jury boards for purposes of selecting juror pools. Amends sec. 28 of [1941 PA 122](#) (MCL [205.28](#)).

[HB 4859](#) (Cushingberry) Courts; juries; jury pool selection process; revise. Amends secs. 1304, 1312 & 1321 of [1961 PA 236](#) (MCL [600.1304](#) et seq.) & adds secs. 1301c, 1310a & 1310b.

**Date position was adopted:**

October 20, 2007

**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:**

20

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

16 Voted for position

4 Did not vote

**Position:**

Other

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

The Committee supports the concept of expanding the pool of potential jurors. It takes no position on whether the additional sources of potential jurors identified in the current bills are sound. But the Committee was concerned that the current bills do not adequately deal with certain issues, as explained below.

Among the issues that need further study are minimizing the administrative burdens on state agencies providing the supplemental lists and the local offices responsible for administering the jury selection process, and taking into consideration the burden on those called for service.. The potential need to review multiple lists for duplication, and the mechanics of requesting only a limited number of names from supplemental sources need to be clarified. The Committee urges the State Bar to take an active role in the consideration of these proposals and to provide whatever assistance it can to the Legislature in conjunction with other interested groups that would be affected by this legislation.

**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?2007-HB-4931>

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<http://legislature.mi.gov/doc.aspx?2007-HB-4934>

<http://legislature.mi.gov/doc.aspx?2007-HB-4755>

<http://legislature.mi.gov/doc.aspx?2007-HB-4859>

**FOR LEGISLATIVE ISSUES ONLY:**

**This position falls within the following Keller-permissible category:**

- The regulation and discipline of attorneys**
- ✓ **The improvement of the functioning of the courts**
- The availability of legal services to society**
- The regulation of attorney trust accounts**
- The regulation of the legal profession, including the education, the ethics, the competency, and the integrity of the profession.**

**Keller-permissible explanation:**

Jury selection is a significant feature of trial procedure, so the bills would affect the functioning of the courts. Jury service is also a major way in which many citizens participate in the judicial process.