

CONSUMER LAW SECTION

Respectfully submits the following position on:

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HB 4158

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The Consumer 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 Consumer Law Section only and is not the position of the State Bar of Michigan.

The State Bar does not have a position on this matter.

The total membership of the Consumer Law Section is 1,399.

The position was adopted after discussion and vote at a scheduled meeting. The number of members in the decision-making body is 14. The number who voted in favor to this position was 9. The number who voted against this position was 0.

Report on Public Policy Position

Name of section:

Consumer Law Section

Contact person:

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Bill Number:

[HB 4158](#) (Lyons) Trade; consumer goods and services; requirement for item pricing of consumer items; repeal. Creates new act & repeals [1976 PA 449](#) (MCL [445.351](#) - [445.364](#)).

Date position was adopted:

January 14, 2011

Process used to take the ideological position:

Position adopted after an electronic discussion and vote

Number of members in the decision-making body:

14

Number who voted in favor and opposed to the position:

9 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:

The Consumer Law Section opposes HB 4158 because the bill would eliminate the requirement for item pricing which would harm consumers by not allowing them to have the information they need to comparison shop and ensure the price they are being charged is actually the price they think they should be charged. Additionally, the bill offers a disincentive to those shops who attempt to still provide this information to consumers because, while the bill does not require the business to provide pricing information, if the information that is provided is false there would be a potential for liability.

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?2011-HB-4158>