FAMILY LAW SECTION
Respectfully submits the following position on:

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HB 4131

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The Family 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 Family 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 Family Law Section is 2,540.

The position was adopted after discussion and vote at a scheduled meeting. The number of members in the decision-making body is 21. The number who voted in favor to this position was 13. The number who voted opposed to this position was 2.

Report on Public Policy Position

Name of section:
Family Law Section

Contact person:
Kent Weichmann

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Bill Number:
HB 4131 (Smith) Children; adoption; second parent adoption; provide for. Amends secs. 24 & 51 of 1939 PA 288 (MCL 710.24 & 710.51).

Date position was adopted:
April 4, 2009

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:
21

Number who voted in favor and opposed to the position:
13 Voted for position
2 Voted against position
0 Abstained from vote
6 Did not vote

Position:
Support

Explanation of the position, including any recommended amendments:
HB 4131 is a reintroduction of the second parent adoption bill that the Family Law Section supported last term. It allows two unmarried persons to petition to adopt a child. The bill would increase the number of potential adoptive homes for children and provide children with stable families. The Family Law Section reaffirms its support for this bill.

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?2009-HB-4131