

JUSTICE POLICY INITIATIVE  
Respectfully submits the following position on:

\*

SB 0519

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The Justice Policy Initiative is comprised of members appointed by the President of the State Bar of Michigan.

The position expressed is that of the Justice Policy Initiative only and is not an official position of the State Bar of Michigan, nor does it necessarily reflect the views of all members of the State Bar of Michigan.

The State Bar position on this matter is to oppose the bill.

The total membership of the Justice Policy Initiative is 12.

The position was adopted after discussion and vote at a scheduled meeting. The number of members in the decision-making body is 12. 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 Committee:**

Justice Policy Initiatives

**Contact Person:**

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**Bill Numbers:**

[SB 0519](#) (Proos) Civil procedure, other; Courts, other; Crime victims, compensation; Criminal procedure, other; Family law, child support. Civil procedure; other; fines, costs, and other indebtedness to courts; require SCAO to establish a database, and require civil litigants to check database before paying or collecting on a judgment. Amends 1961 PA 236 (MCL 600.101 - 600.9947) by adding sec. 1477.

**Date position was adopted:**

October 10, 2013

**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:**

12

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

10 Voted for position

0 Voted against position

0 Abstained from vote

2 Did not vote

**Position:**

Oppose

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

The Initiative voted unanimously to take a position of opposition on the bill in agreement with the reasons listed by the Criminal Jurisprudence & Practice Committee:

This bill, which is intended to assist in collecting child support, offers a logistical nightmare for the court system. Any attorney who wins a financial judgment for his client would have to check this SCAO-created database before remitting any money to his client.

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?2013-SB-0519>

**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:**

The affects the functioning of the courts because of the increase in court workload to create, maintain, and search such a database.