

## Report on Public Policy Position

**Name of committee:**

Criminal Jurisprudence & Practice Committee

**Contact persons:**

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**Bill Number:**

[HB 5568](#) (Schuitmaker) Criminal procedure; sentencing; certain records necessary to obtain identification documents; assist convicted persons in obtaining. Amends sec. 14, ch. XI of [1927 PA 175](#) (MCL [771.14](#)).

**Date position was adopted:**

February 14, 2008

**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:**

23

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

10 Voted for position

0 Voted against position

1 Abstained from vote

0 Did not vote

**Position:**

Support

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

Consistent with prior positions of this Committee we support any legislation that assists those convicted of a crime with obtaining documents necessary to obtain identification so that the criminal justice system will have a better ability to maintain contact with the individual and the person will have documentation that will aid in obtaining housing and employment.

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-5568>

**RECOMMEND STATE BAR ACTION ON THIS ISSUE:**

List any arguments against the position:

N/A

**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 State Bar has previously supported legislation that assists convicted persons in obtaining identification as important for accessing legal services. Upon release from prisons, individuals without proper identification may not be able to access legal proceedings and administrative hearings held in state or federal buildings that require identification for entry.