

Public Policy Position HB 6006 – HB 6009

The Family Law Section is a voluntary membership section of the State Bar of Michigan, comprised of 2,592 members. The Family Law Section is not the State Bar of Michigan and the position expressed herein is that of the Family Law Section only and not the State Bar of Michigan. To date, the State Bar does not have a position on this item.

The Family Law Section has a public policy decision-making body with 21 members. On October 24, 2024, the Section adopted its position after a discussion and vote at a scheduled meeting. 16 members voted in favor of the Section's position, 0 members voted against this position, 1 member abstained, 4 members did not vote.

<u>Oppose</u>

Explanation:

The Family Law Section Council opposes the package of bills known as Kayden's Law (HBs 600-6009) for several reasons as expressed by council members:

1. Council members are concerned about a full prohibition on reunification therapy for those impacted by the law.

2. The provisions in 6009 redefining the Daubert standard only for specific experts and only in specific cases is strange and unnecessary.

The law contains a poor definition of a "qualifying act" which would trigger its provisions.
The full suspension of parenting time and custodial rights due to a "qualifying act" could potentially serve as an unconstitutional end run around child welfare proceedings and serve as a de facto termination of parental rights.

5. The bills are opposed by the Michigan Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence.

6. The bills were drafted without input from any family law attorneys.

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