

Public Policy Position
H.R. 3957

The Animal Law Section is a voluntary membership section of the State Bar of Michigan, comprised of 272 members. The Animal Law Section is not the State Bar of Michigan and the position expressed herein is that of the Animal Law Section only and not the State Bar of Michigan. To date, the State Bar does not have a position on this item.

The Animal Law Section has a public policy decision-making body with 15 members. On August 16, 2023, the Section adopted its position after an electronic discussion and vote. 13 members voted in favor of the Section's position, 0 members voted against this position, 0 members abstained, 2 members did not vote.

Support

Explanation:

The Animal Law Section supports H.R. 3957, known as the Providing for Unhoused People with Pets (PUPP) Act of 2023. The PUPP Act would create a fund to be administered by the USDA in consultation with HUD to award grants to human sheltering organizations to enable them to accommodate unhoused people with pets and provide the pets with necessary veterinary care. It is estimated that 12% of unhoused people have pets, but most human sheltering organizations are unequipped to accept and cohouse people and pets. Faced with a choice between accepting services and shelter and giving up their beloved animal(s), most unhoused people with pets choose to remain on the streets, perpetuating chronic homelessness and negatively impacting their welfare. This bill would help to create shelters where humans and their animals can be cohoused and obtain necessary services, ensuring the wellbeing of both people and their pets.

Contact Person: Ann M. Griffin

Email: annmgriffin@hotmail.com