

Legislative Proposal Form

Minnesota State Bar Association

Bar Year 2011-2012

For questions related to this form, please contact Bryan Lake (612-278-6350; blake@mnbar.org)

SECTION I: BACKGROUND

Please identify the MSBA section(s) or committee(s) proposing this legislative position.

What process did your section or committee use to approve this position?

Sections and committees are strongly encouraged to present legislative recommendations to the Assembly for approval as MSBA positions but they are also authorized to take positions on their own behalf. Are you seeking to take a position in the name of your section or committee only, or in the name of the MSBA?

- MSBA Section-only or Committee-only*

***If this is a section-only or committee-only proposal, please certify the following in accordance with the MSBA's bylaws and policies:**

- The proposed position was submitted for comment to every member of the section or committee before this form was submitted to the MSBA.
- The proposal was approved in accordance with the section's bylaws or by the majority of a quorum of the committee.
- The vote totals of the section's or committee's members or governing body on the proposal:
 Pro _____ Con _____
- I understand that no action may be taken for three business days after this form is submitted to the MSBA.
- I understand that the MSBA President may preempt section or committee legislative action at any time and that the Council may reverse or amend the President's decision by a two-thirds vote of Council members present and voting.

Are you seeking to support an existing bill, oppose an existing bill, or pass your own bill?

- Support existing bill Oppose existing bill Pass own bill

Does the proposal amend an existing statute, create a new statute, or relate to funding for an agency or program?

- Amends statute Creates statute Agency or program funding

Describe the issue addressed by this legislative proposal and explain who will benefit if the desired result is achieved.

Why should the MSBA support this proposal?

What adverse consequences will occur if the desired result of this proposal is not achieved? Are there other reasons why this proposal must be pursued during the 2012 legislative session?

How did this proposal originate? If your section or committee was asked by another organization to support this initiative, please identify the organization.

Please list any other group or individual that has sponsored a comparable proposal in recent years. Please explain whether that group or individual is currently sponsoring comparable legislation, and if not, why they are no longer sponsoring comparable legislation.

SECTION II: VETTING

A. INTERNAL VETTING. *The MSBA will forward this proposal to all sections and committees, but it is **the proposing section's or committee's responsibility** to solicit feedback, at the earliest possible time, from other sections and committees that may have an interest in the proposal.*

Have any MSBA sections or committees reviewed this proposal and taken a position in support?

Have any MSBA sections or committees reviewed this proposal and opposed or objected to all or any portion of the proposal? What were their objections?

Have any MSBA sections or committees not responded to your request that they review this proposal?

B. EXTERNAL VETTING. *You are strongly encouraged to solicit feedback from groups and individuals that might be interested in your proposal. No weight will be given to assumptions about support from other interest groups.*

Are there any MSBA-affiliated organizations or other organizations of Minnesota lawyers that might have an interest in this proposal? If they object to the proposal, have you discussed their objections with them? What was the outcome of those discussions?

Are there any other groups or individuals that might have an interest this proposal? What is their response to it? If they object to the proposal, have you discussed their objections with them? What was the outcome of those discussions?

If this proposal affects a uniform law, what is the Uniform Law Commissioners' position on the proposal?

If this proposal affects a State Agency, what is the Agency's position on the proposal?

Have you discussed your proposal with any legislators? If so, identify the legislators and briefly describe their position on the issue.

SECTION III: LOBBYING RESOURCES

The average legislative initiative requires approximately 50 hours of lobbyist support from the MSBA. Estimated number of lobbyist hours for this proposal: _____

Describe the anticipated lobbying activities that form the basis of your time estimate.

Describe the anticipated activities of your section or committee in support of this proposal and provide the email address and phone number for at least one primary contact person.

Please identify any other stakeholders that will provide lobbying support for this proposal.

Note regarding volunteer lobbying: No section or committee legislative action may be taken without first coordinating with the MSBA lobbying team. (“Legislative action” includes: attempting to persuade elected officials or government agencies; letters, statements, comments, or testimony concerning legislative matters; joining coalitions related to legislative matters; seeking bill authors; and providing technical advice and drafting assistance.)

Note regarding bill drafting: To reduce MSBA pressure on the Revisor of Statutes Office and to ensure that MSBA bills are thoroughly reviewed and error-free before introduction, you are strongly encouraged to work on bill drafts with the Revisor’s Office as early as possible – they do not mind preparing multiple drafts to ensure accuracy. For drafting assistance, please provide Paul Marinac of the Revisor’s Office with a short summary of your proposal and what you hope the proposal will accomplish (paul.marinac@revisor.mn.gov or 651-296-0948).

Signed: _____

Title/Position: _____

Date: _____

Please submit this form to blake@mnbar.org