

## Matt Carnagie

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**From:** Shelli Weisberg <[sweisberg@aclumich.org](mailto:sweisberg@aclumich.org)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 17, 2022 11:22 AM  
**To:** Matt Carnagie  
**Cc:** Cynthia Paul; Merissa Kovach  
**Subject:** HB 5956 - ACLU of Michigan Position

Hi Matt – Please accept this as the ACLU of Michigan’s position on HB 5956 before the House Appropriations Committee today:

Dear Chairperson Albert,

HB 5956 represents the third time sunseting the arbitrary imposition of fees on criminal defendants under MCL 469.1(k)(1)(b)(iii). This is not only bad policy, but possibly unconstitutional. The legislature needs to get serious about solving this now entrenched problem. While the sunset may be attractive as a short-term reprieve, passing this bill runs the risk of providing a false safety net because it doesn’t address the underlying constitutional problem as argued in the *Johnson and Edwards* cases. The legislature should immediately undertake and move to implement the Trial Court Funding Commission recommendations instead of kicking the can down the road.

*Shelli*

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