The CBA Child Welfare and Juvenile Law position request is as follows:

1) Proposed legislative concept:

   The Section supports drafted legislation AN ACT CONCERNING RESTORATION OF TERMINATED PARENTAL RIGHTS (Failed Adoptions)

2) Explanation and rationale for advancing this position:

   The majority of children who are freed for adoption are adopted by a pre-adoptive family. However, there are a unfortunate few who are “unadoptable.” These children typically are pre-teens or teenagers who are becoming institutionalized because they bounce from foster home to foster home and group home from group home. DCF may have a difficult time identity pre-adoptive homes for older children who display behavioral issues. These children who were never adopted should have the option to revisit the biological parents under the right set of circumstances.

   A child for whom parental rights have been terminated pursuant to section 17a-112 may file a petition in the Superior Court for Juvenile Matters to restore the parental rights of one or both parents provided that (1) the child reached the age of 14, or if the child is the younger sibling of such child, 14 years of age or older, for whom reinstatement of parental rights is being sought and the younger sibling independently meets the criteria set forth in this section; (3) the child has not been adopted; (4) at least three years have passed since the entering of the order terminating parental rights and (5) an affidavit is filed indicating that the parent whose rights are sought to be restored consents to the filing of the petition.

3) Is draft legislation or a proposed bill included?

   Yes. See Attached.

4) What is the date of any legislative hearing, if known?

   None known at this time.

5) Was this position previously approved by the CBA? If so, when does/did it expire?

   No.
6) Is the CBA section or committee seeking to join a previously approved CBA section or committee position?

No.

7) Potential or actual CBA opposition from another CBA section or committee?

None known at this time.

8) Strength of section position (including process and results of section vote taken on issue):

Vote passed unanimously at section meeting on 09/28/2017. The proposed language was drafted and edited over several months. Proposed draft presented at 9/13/2018 section meeting. Again vote passed unanimously.

9) Fiscal impact (on the state):

None known at this time. Requested from DCF legislative office the statistics of the children currently in care that would be impacted by said proposed legislation.

10) Are you seeking “fast-track” approval?¹

No.

¹ A “fast track” recommendation will be submitted to the House of Delegates (HOD) or Board of Governors (BOG) at its next scheduled meeting (or, if between meetings of the HOD or BOG and during the legislative session, to the Executive Committee), and is warranted only when the Legislative Policy & Review Committee concludes that further analysis and study is unnecessary and where there is legitimate time pressure to address pending legislation.