



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
LANSING



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TO: Natural Resources Commission

FROM: Taylor Ridderbusch, Legislative Liaison

SUBJECT: Department of Natural Resources (Department) Legislative Update

**HB 4078 – Allow an Individual to Possess a Loaded Firearm in or on a Vehicle when on Private Property – Rep. LaFave**

The bill amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to allow an individual to possess or transport a loaded firearm in or upon a vehicle, including an ATV or UTV, if the individual owns the private land or is accompanied by or has permission of the owner or lessee of the private land.

- The bill was passed by the House of Representatives and was referred to the Senate Committee on Government Operations.
- The Administration is opposed to this legislation.

**HB 4080 (S-1) – Allow Pneumatic Guns During Certain Seasons – Rep. LaFave**

This bill amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to provide the NRC the ability to allow an individual to use a pneumatic gun during any firearm season. The bill would also give the Department the ability to determine whether a pneumatic gun could be allowed during archery season for individual with a disability or physical limitation for the 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 and 2026 archery season. The legislation caps the available permit up to ten individuals who submit certification from medical professional on a form the department must develop.

- The bill was passed by the House of Representatives and reported with recommendation as an S-1 by the Senate Committee on Natural Resources. The bill is currently awaiting a vote on the Senate floor.
- The Administration is opposed to this legislation.

**HB 4152 (S-4) – Modify Penalties for Violations of Certain Hunting Provisions – Rep. Howell**

The bill would decriminalize the several hunting and fishing provisions from a misdemeanor to a civil infraction with a fine up to \$150.00.

- The bill was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate. The bill has been signed into law by the Governor and is Public Act 23 of 2022.
- The Administration is in support of this legislation.

**HB 4242 (S-2) – Allow Export of Live Minnows, Wigglers or Crayfish as Bait – Rep. Alexander**

This bill would allow for the export of live minnow, wigglers, or crayfish as bait.

- The bill was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate. The bill has been signed into law by the Governor and is Public Act 30 of 2022.
- The Administration is in support of this legislation.

**HBs 4205 and 4206 – Provide Free Snowmobile Weekend on Snowmobile Trails – Reps. Roth and S. Johnson**

House Bill 4205 would require that before the start of each snow mobile season, the Department would be required to designate one weekend in the snowmobile season during which a registration would not be required to operate a snowmobile on snowmobile trails. House Bill 4206 would require that before the start of each snow mobile season, the Department would be required to designate one weekend in the snowmobile season during which a trail permit would not be required to operate a snowmobile on snowmobile trails.

- These bills were passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate. The bills have been signed into law by the Governor and as Public Acts 55 and 56 of 2022.
- The Administration is in support of this legislation.

**HB 4332 (H-1) – Modify Placement of Off-Road Vehicle Stickers – Rep. S. Johnson**

This bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to require the license for a 2-wheel vehicle to be attached to either of the following: centered on the exposed surface of the rear fender or located at a visible place on a front suspension fork.

- The bill was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate. The bill has been signed into law by the Governor and is Public Act 57 of 2022.
- The Administration is neutral on this legislation.

**HB 5631 – Require Creation of Michigan Woodcock Restoration Plan – Rep. Cherry**

This bill would put into statute a requirement that the Department must create an American woodcock restoration plan in consultation with several organizations outlined in the legislation by December 31, 2023.

- The bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation and one hearing has been held.
- The Administration is opposed to this legislation.

**HB 5642 – Designate Official State Butterfly – Rep. Brixie**

This bill designates the black swallowtail butterfly as the official butterfly of the state of Michigan.

- This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation and one hearing has been held.
- The Administration is neutral on this legislation.

### **HB 5740 – Seven Day Hunting License for Senior Citizens – Rep. Eisen**

This bill would create a seven-day senior deer license for a fee of \$12.00 that would be valid for taking antlered or antlerless deer during any seven-day period from October 1 to November 1 with a firearm on private land.

- This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this legislation.

### **HB 5902 – Regulate the Use of Bait During Hunting Season – Rep. Eisen**

The bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to allow for the baiting of deer and elk.

- This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this legislation

### **SB 251 (S-2) – Modify Commercial Fishing Regulations – Sen. McBroom**

The bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act for the purpose of restricting the DNR's authority to issue Fisheries Orders for the management of the state-licensed commercial fishery. In addition, the bill would make a number of changes including putting current fisheries orders into statute.

- The bill was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate. The bill has been signed into law by the Governor and is Public Act 34 of 2022.
- The Administration is neutral on this legislation.