



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 4035 – Provide for Lake Level Assessment Fee Reimbursement Under Certain Circumstances – Rep. VanSingel

The bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to specify that PILT paid by the Department of Treasury to each county for Department-managed swamp and tax reverted lands is to be in lieu of all special assessments levied against these state lands under existing law, in addition to all other taxes.

- 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 1 of 2022.
- The Administration is in support of this legislation.

HB 4149 (H-1) – Modify Certain Penalties for Certain Fishing Violations – Rep. Damoose

The bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to modify the following fishing violations to a civil infraction with a fine of not more than \$150.00: fails to attach the individual's name and address to tip-ups in violation of section 48703(2); or fishes with more than the authorized number of lines in violation of section 48703(1).

- The bill was passed by the House and reported with recommendation from the Senate Committee on Natural Resources. The bill is currently awaiting a vote on the Senate floor.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

HB 4151 – Modify Penalties for Certain Hunting and Fishing Licensing Violations – Rep. S. Johnson

The bill would decriminalize failure to carry your hunting or fishing license to a civil infraction with a fine of up to \$150.00.

- The bill was passed by the House and reported with recommendation from the Senate Committee on Natural Resources. The bill is currently awaiting a vote on the Senate floor.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

**HB 4152 (S-2) – 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 and reported with recommendation as amended from the Senate Committee on Natural Resources. The bill is currently awaiting a vote on the Senate floor.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

**HB 4363 (H-1) – Modify Time Periods for Certain DNR Land Transactions
– Rep. Howell**

The bill would extend the time-period for the DNR to approve or deny an application for a proposed exchange of state land and for a proposed sale of surplus land, from 180 days to 210 days. The bill would also require the DNR to provide public notice at least 30 days before making a decision to dispose of, lease, or develop certain public land of more than 80 acres in size.

- 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 2 of 2022.
- The Administration is in support of this legislation.

**HB 4969 – Require Conservation Officers to Wear Body Cameras While on Patrol
– Rep. LaFave**

House Bill 4969 would amend Act 109 of 1986 to require conservation officers to wear body cameras while on patrol.

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

**HBs 5408-5410 – Modify Recreation Passport Fee – Reps. Cherry,
Howell and Roth**

These bills would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, Act 451 of 1994, to modify the recreation passport fee allowing for additional options for the recreation passport fee selection when renewing vehicle registration thru the Secretary of State.

- The bills have been referred to the House Committee on Transportation, where one hearing has been held.
- The Administration is in support of this legislation.

SCR 7 (H-1) – Resolution of Urging NRC and Department to Organize Wolf Hunting and Trapping in 2022 – Sen. McBroom

A concurrent resolution to urge the Natural Resources Commission to authorize, and the Department of Natural Resources to organize, wolf hunting and trapping as part of the state's wolf management efforts beginning in 2022.

- The resolution was adopted by the Senate and reported as H-1 version with recommendation by the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation. The resolution is currently awaiting a vote on the House floor.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this resolution.