



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 reported with recommendation from the House Committee on Military, Veterans and Homeland Security and the House Committee on Judiciary. The bill is currently awaiting a vote on the House floor.
- The Administration is opposed to 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 of Representatives and the Senate. The bill has been signed into law by the Governor and is Public Act 14 of 2022.
- The Administration is in support of 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 of Representatives and the Senate. The bill has been signed into law by the Governor and is Public Act 15 of 2022.
- The Administration is in support of 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 is currently before the Governor for consideration.
- 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 is currently before the Governor for consideration.
- The Administration is in support of this legislation.

HB 5576 – Prohibit use of anchors in Straits of Mackinac. – Rep. Hood

This bill would prohibit the use of anchors in Straits of Mackinac and require the use of a maritime pilot and marking of obstructions.

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

SB 210 (H-1) – Eliminate Helmet Requirement on ORVs in Certain Circumstances – Sen. McBroom

The bill eliminates the helmet requirement for ORV use if a person possesses a written verification from a physician that the person, for physical or medical reasons, is unable to wear a helmet.

- The bill was passed by the Senate and reported with recommendation by the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation. The bill is currently awaiting a vote on the House floor.
- The Administration is opposed to this legislation.

SB 211 (H-1) – Eliminate Helmet Requirement on Snowmobiles in Certain Circumstances – Sen. McBroom

The bill eliminates the helmet requirement for snowmobile use if a person possesses a written verification from a physician that the person, for physical or medical reasons, is unable to wear a helmet.

- The bill was passed by the Senate and reported with recommendation by the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation. The bill is currently awaiting a vote on the House floor.
- The Administration is opposed to 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 is currently before the Governor for consideration.
- The Administration is neutral on the S-2 version of this legislation.

HR 219 – Resolution of Urging Wolf Management Advisory Council and the NRC to Organize Wolf Hunting and Trapping in 2022 – Rep. Markkanen

A resolution to urge the Wolf Management Advisory Council and 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 discharged from the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation and adopted by the House of Representatives.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this resolution.

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 the House of Representatives. The H-1 version of the resolution adopted by the House has been returned to the Senate for consideration.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this resolution.