



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 and reported with recommendation by the Senate Committee on Natural Resources. The bill is awaiting a vote on the Senate floor.
- 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 by the Senate Committee on Natural Resources. The bill is 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 by the Senate Committee on Natural Resources. The bill is 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 following hunting and fishing provisions from a misdemeanor to a civil infraction with a fine up to \$150.00: failure to attach individual's name, driver license number, or sportcard number to a ground blind; failure to attach individual's name, driver license number, or sportcard number to a tree stand, scaffold, or raised platform; supplemental feeding of deer; failure to attach individual's name, driver license number, or sportcard number to an ice shack or shanty; first offense for fishing without a license; first offense for possession of a weapon without a hunting license in area frequented by wild animals; first offense for noise level violations of marine safety; first offense for improper attachment of registration number and decal to a snowmobile; and first offense for failure to notify the Secretary of State for a snowmobile being sold, destroyed or having a change of address.

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

**HB 4242 – 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 and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources has held a hearing on the legislation.
- The Administration is neutral 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 and reported with recommendation by the Senate Committee on Natural Resources. The bill is awaiting a vote on the Senate floor.
- The Administration is in support of this legislation.

### **HBs 5358-5360 – Provide Regulations for Commercial Hunting and Sport Fishing Guides – Reps. Howell, Cherry and Martin**

These bills would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, Act 451 of 1994, to provide for the licensure and regulation of commercial hunting and sport fishing guides and to provide the Natural Resources Commission with the exclusive authority to regulate hunting and fishing guides.

- The bills have been referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation and two hearings have been held.
- The Administration is in support of 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 Senate and reported with recommendation by the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation. The bill is awaiting a vote on the House floor.
- The Administration is neutral on the S-2 version of this legislation.