



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



M. SCOTT BOWEN
DIRECTOR

July 11, 2024

TO: Natural Resources Commission

FROM: Chris Semrinec, Legislative Liaison

SUBJECT: Department of Natural Resources (Department) Legislative Update

HB 5737 – Modifies Mentored Hunting Program – Rep. Aiyash

This bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to include minor children or adults with developmental or intellectual disabilities who are not able to obtain a certification of completion of training in hunters' safety to participate in the mentored hunt program.

- This bill has passed the House and Senate and is awaiting the Governor's signature.
- The Administration is in support of this legislation.

HB 5824 – Modifies Department Spending Related to Wolves – Rep. Prestin

This bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to prohibit spending state funds to manage the wolf population unless wolves have been removed from the federal endangered species list and the NRC has established a wolf hunting season.

- This bill has been referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

HB 5873 – Adjusts Recreation Passport Revenue Distribution Formula – Rep. Mentzer

This bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to modify the formula for distribution of funds received from the Recreation Passport.

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

HB 5874 – Provides for Cultural Resource Management – Rep. Mentzer

This bill would define the roles and responsibilities of the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and the State Archeologist.

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

HB 5880 & 5881 – Creates Regulations for Large Watercrafts in the Straights of Mackinac – Rep. Hood

This bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to regulate large watercrafts in the Straights of Mackinac by prohibiting the use of anchors or drags in the bottomlands of the in the Straights and require the use of a Maritime Pilot to navigate in the Straights. Violations would be punishable by a felony. The Department shall be required to mark obstructions and emergency anchorage areas for safety with buoys or beacons in the Straights of Mackinac.

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

SB 937 – Designates Official State Insect – Sen. Lauwers

This bill designates the Isabella Tiger Moth as the official insect of the state of Michigan.

- This bill has been referred to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Agriculture.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

SB 957 – Modifies Sales Threshold for Point of Sale Agents– Sen. Hoitenga

This bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to reduce the minimum sales threshold for license sales agents if they have been authorized to issue licenses for at least 5 years.

- The bill has been referred to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Agriculture.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.