



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



M. SCOTT BOWEN
DIRECTOR

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TO: Natural Resources Commission

FROM: Chris Semrinec, Legislative Liaison

SUBJECT: Department of Natural Resources (Department) Legislative Update

HB 4013 – Modifies the Responsibilities of Property Owners Under the Recreational Trespassing Law – Rep. Slagh

This bill amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to require property owners to post signs at an interval of not more than 250 along the boundary of the property.

- The bill was referred to the House Committee Natural Resources and Tourism and the committee took testimony on the bill on March 5, 2025.
- The Administration is in support of this legislation.

HB 4029 – Requires Postings of Rule and Regulation Change by a Certain Date – Rep. Slagh

This bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to require any regulation changes or orders issued for the taking of game by the Natural Resources Commission to be issued by August 15th. Orders issued after this will not be valid until the following year.

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

HB 4044 – Designates Official State Duck – Rep. Farhat

This bill designates the Wood duck as the official duck of the state of Michigan.

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

SB 63 – Modifies Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant Recipients – Sen. Hoytenga

This bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to modify the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant recipients to include state departments, counties, and road commissions.

- This bill has been referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this bill.

SB 65 – Creates Deer Baiting License – Sen. Hoyenga

This bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to create a deer baiting license for private property, except in management units where wildlife diseases affecting deer or elk have been found.

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

SB 67 – Requires Postings of Rule and Regulation Change by a Certain Date – Sen. Hoyenga

This bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to require any regulation changes or orders issued for the taking of game by the Natural Resources Commission to be issued by August 1st. Orders issued after this will not be valid until the following year.

- This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this legislation.

HB 4073 – Remove the Open Field Doctrine for DNR Employees – Rep. Markkanen

This bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to restrict DNR employee's ability to enter upon private property unless they have permission from the landowner or lessee or if they are a DNR peace officer or park and recreation officer with a warrant, reasonably believes evidence of a crime will be destroyed or they are in hot pursuit of criminal suspect.

- The bill was referred to the House Committee on Criminal Justice.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this legislation.

HB 4074 – Requires Body Cameras for DNR Law Enforcement Officers – Rep. Prestin

This bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to require all conservation officers to wear body cameras while exercising their duties.

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

HB 4118 – Allows for Drain Assessment Levies – Rep. Schuette

This bill would amend the Drain Code of 1956 to allow lands under the ownership of the Department of Natural Resources to be levied for drain assessments.

- This bill was referred to the House Committee on Government Operations
- The Administration has not taken a position on this legislation.

HB 4176 – Allows Purple Paint Marks to be Used as No Trespassing Signs – Rep. VanderWall

This bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to allow for the use of purple paint marks to be used in lieu of posted signage indicating private property.

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