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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



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TO: Natural Resources Commission (NRC)
FROM: Craig Brunet, Legislative Liaison
SUBJECT: Department of Natural Resources (Department) Legislative Update

HB 4026 – Provide for 2-Year Recreation Passport Renewal – Rep. Eisen

This bill would amend the Motor Vehicle Code to allow for a 2-year renewal of the Recreation Passport when an individual obtains a 2-year vehicle registration.

- The bill was voted out of the House Committee on Transportation and is awaiting a vote on the House floor.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

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

This 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 referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation and a hearing has been held.
- The Administration is in support of this legislation.

HB 4050 – Exempt Certain Game Location Data from FOIA – Rep. Cherry

This bill amends the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to allow for a disclosure exemption of public records revealing the specific location or GPS coordinates of game animals.

- The bill was voted out of the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation and is awaiting a vote on the House floor.
- The Administration is in support of this legislation.

HB 4078 – Allow an Individual to Possess a Loaded Firearm in or on a Vehicle when on Private Property – Rep. LaFave

This 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.

- This bill was referred to the House Committee on Military, Veterans and Homeland Security.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

HB 4079 – Allow Individuals to Hunt from a Vehicle on Private Property – Rep. LaFave

This legislation amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to allow an individual to carry a loaded firearm, bow, or crossbow in or upon a vehicle and will allow the individual to discharge the weapon to take game from a vehicle if the individual is on private property.

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

HB 4080 – Allow Pneumatic Guns During Certain Seasons – Rep. LaFave

This bill amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to provide the NRC the ability to allow an individual to use a pneumatic gun during any firearm season. The bill would also give the Department the ability to determine whether a pneumatic gun could be allowed during archery season for individual with a disability or physical limitation.

- This 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 4088 – Allow Supplemental feeding of Wildlife and Birds – Rep. Borton

This bill amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to allow for the feeding of wildlife and birds if both of the following conditions are met: the feed is located within 600 feet from a residence and the quantity of feed placed, scattered, or distributed within 600 feet of that residence does not exceed two gallons.

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

HB 4126 (H-1) – Update Funding Formula for Pheasant Stamp – Rep. Howell

When PA 262 of 2020 created a pheasant hunting license, it required that all the license revenue be deposited into the Pheasant Subaccount of the Game and Fish Protection Account. HB 4126 allows \$0.35 from each pheasant hunting license sale to be distributed to the Wildlife Resource Protection Fund to comply with PA 451 of 1994, Sec. 43555 and allows for payment of 7.5% commission rate to vendors operating Department license sales terminals to comply with Sec. 43541.

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

HB 4136 – Decriminalize Safety Standards for Snowmobiles – Rep. Markkanen

The bill would decriminalize failure to have safety standards for snowmobile product certification from a misdemeanor to a civil infraction with a fine of up to \$150.00. The bill also decriminalizes operating a snowmobile without a crash helmet from a misdemeanor to a civil infraction with a fine of up to \$150.00.

- The bill was referred to the House Committee on Judiciary.

- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

HB 4137 – Decriminalize Failure to Exhibit Safety Certificate – Rep. LaFave

The bill would decriminalize failure to exhibit safety certificate for a motorboat from a misdemeanor to a civil infraction with a fine of up to \$150.00.

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

HB 4138 – Decriminalize Improper Display of a Snowmobile Registration Decal or Trail Permit – Rep. Alexander

This bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to decriminalize the improper display of a snowmobile registration decal or trail permit sticker from a misdemeanor to a civil infraction with a fine of up to \$150.00.

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

HB 4139 – Decriminalize Off-Road Vehicles Improperly Crossing Street – Rep. LaFave

The bill would decriminalize improperly crossing a street or road in an off-road vehicle from misdemeanor to a civil infraction with a fine of up to \$150.00.

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

HB 4140 – Decriminalize Operation of a Snowmobile Without Safety Certification – Rep. LaFave

The bill would decriminalize failure to present a snowmobile safety certificate to any peace officers upon demand from a misdemeanor to a civil infraction with a fine of up to \$150.00.

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

HB 4142 – Decriminalize Certain Snowmobile Penalties – Rep. Coleman

The bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to decriminalize specific snowmobile penalties in this state such as, failure to display registration, affixing wrong registration, affixing registration improperly, lost or mutilated registration, and snowmobiling along the highway. The bill would reduce the offense to a state civil infraction subject to a civil infraction of up to \$150.00.

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

HB 4149 – Modify Certain Penalties for Certain Fishing Violations – Rep. Mueller

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 referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and one hearing has been held.
- 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 referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and one hearing has been held.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

HB 4152 – Modify Penalties for Violations of Certain Hunting Provisions – Rep. Howell

The bill would decriminalize the following hunting 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; and supplemental feeding of deer.

- The bill was referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and one hearing has been held.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

HB 4187 – Allow Use of Trotlines or Juglines for the Taking of Nongame Fish and Snapping Turtles – Rep. Albert

This bill would require the NRC to establish a three-year pilot program by April 1, 2021, on the use of trotlines or juglines on inland lakes and rivers to take nongame fish and snapping turtles and, within 90 days of completion of the pilot, issue a report to the Legislature on the use of juglines and trotlines. Also, if the NRC determined that the use of juglines or trotlines should be prohibited or restricted on certain inland lakes or rivers, the NRC would be required to provide a legislative report before the start of the pilot program explaining the principles of sound scientific management used to make those decisions.

- 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.

HBs 4205 and 4206 – Provide Free Snowmobile Weekend on Snowmobile Trails – Reps. Roth and S. Johnson

House Bill 4205 would require that before the start of each snow mobile season, the Department would be required to designate one weekend in the snowmobile season during which a registration would not be required to operate a snowmobile on snowmobile trails. House Bill 4206 would require that before the start of each snow mobile season, the Department would be required to designate one weekend in the

snowmobile season during which a trail permit would not be required to operate a snowmobile on snowmobile trails.

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

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

The bill would extend the time-period for the Department to approve or deny an application for an exchange of state land and for a proposed sale of surplus land, from 180 days to 210 days. The bill would also require the Department 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 voted out of the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation and is awaiting a vote on the House floor.
- The Administration is in support of this legislation.

HR 25 – Resolution Urging Governor to Establish a Statewide Land and Water Conservation Goal – Rep. Lightner

A resolution to urge the Governor to establish a statewide goal of conserving at least 30 percent of land and 30 percent of water in the state by the year 2030, as part of the nationwide 30x30 effort to accelerate conservation efforts, and to update the state land management plan accordingly.

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

SB 106 – Allow the Use of Purple Paint to Designate a No Trespassing Area – Sen. VanderWall

The bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to prohibit a person from engaging in recreational activity or trapping on another person's property if, among other things, the property was posted against entry with purple paint marks on trees or posts around the property.

- The bill was reported with recommendation from the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and is awaiting a vote on the Senate floor.
- The Administration is opposed to this legislation.

**SB 120 – Modify the Natural Resources Commission Membership –
Sen. McBroom**

The bill amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to modify the make-up on the NRC to require that at least three members of the commission must be residents of the Upper Peninsula, if at least 35% of state-owned land is located in the Upper Peninsula.

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

SB 152 – Allow an Individual to Possess a Loaded Firearm in or on a Vehicle when on Private Property – Sen. McBroom

This 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.

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

**SR 15 – Resolution Urging NRC and Department to Allow for Wolf Hunt in 2021 –
Sen. McBroom**

A resolution to urge the NRC to authorize, and the Department to organize, wolf hunting and trapping as part of the state's wolf management efforts beginning in 2021.

- The resolution was reported from the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and is awaiting action on the Senate floor.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this resolution.

SR 17 – Resolution Urging NRC and Department to End Study on APR in CWD Core Area – Sen. McBroom

A resolution to urge the NRC and the Department to end the research study begun in 2019 concerning the effectiveness of antler point restrictions as a management tool in the chronic wasting disease core area.

- The resolution was referred to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and a hearing has been held.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this resolution.

SR 20 – Resolution Urging NRC to Add Eastern Sandhill Cranes as Game Species – Sen. McBroom

A resolution to encourage the NRC to add Eastern sandhill cranes to the game species list and seek U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service approval to establish an Eastern sandhill crane hunting season.

- The resolution was referred to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and a hearing has been held.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this resolution.