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LANSING



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TO: Natural Resources Commission
Department of Natural Resources Management Team

FROM: Anna Mooney, Liaison, Legislative & Legal Affairs Office

SUBJECT: Department of Natural Resources Legislative Update

HB 4781-4783 – Electric Bicycles – Rep. Hughes

These bills seek to amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, the Michigan Vehicle Code and the Insurance Code by defining an electric bicycle (e-bike) and provide regulations on where it can be used. The use of e-bikes on certain trails would be allowed unless the local unit or governing authority adopted a resolution or order to prohibit the use.

- These bills were referred to the Senate Committee on Outdoor Recreation and Tourism.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this legislation.

SB 551 – MNRTF Recommendations – Sen. Hildenbrand

This bill seeks to amend Part 19 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to clarify how the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) Board will determine the amount of money to be made available each year for funding of projects. The group that would make this recommendation to the Board would be comprised of the Governor, State Treasurer, Senate Majority Leader, Speaker of the House of Representatives or their designees and a member of the Board.

- This bill was referred to the House Committee on Appropriations.
- The Administration supports this legislation.

SB 552 – ORV Permit Sunset Extension – Sen. Hansen

This bill seeks to amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to extend the sunset on the off-road vehicle (ORV) license and trail permit fee to the year 2024. Current trail permit fee of \$10 and license fee of \$26.25 were enacted in 2013 and are set to expire on April 1, 2019.

- This bill was referred to the House Committee on Tourism and Outdoor Recreation.
- The Administration supports this legislation.

SB 553-565 – Historical Marker Program – Sen. Schmidt, Hansen and Green

These bills seek to amend various acts to make several technical changes to address the name change to the Michigan History Center and to align spending authority with the intended fund for the Historical Marker Program.

- These bills were referred to the House Committee on Tourism and Outdoor Recreation.
- The Administration supports this legislation.

SB 596 – Trail Guidance – Sen. Hansen

This bill seeks to amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to recommend that the department develop guidance or framework for local trail managers. The bill would also suggest various topics that a Trails Council could consider for discussion.

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

HB 4957 – Mentored Youth Hunt – Rep. Howell

This bill seeks to amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to allow an individual who purchased a Mentored Youth Hunting License to purchase additional licenses, including antlerless deer, bear and elk. The legislation would also clarify that the mentored youth is subject to the same license application process as other hunters are for purchasing additional licenses.

- This bill was reported from the House Committee on Natural Resources and is awaiting a vote on the House Floor.
- The Administration supports this legislation.

HB 4962 – Purple Paint Marking for Private Property – Rep. Glenn

This bill seeks to amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to allow purple paint marks to designate a no trespassing area.

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

HB 4992 – Opening Day of Firearm Deer Season – Rep. Howell

This bill seeks to amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to move the opening day of Firearm Deer Season to the Saturday closest to November 15th.

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

HB 5000 – Changes to Natural Resources Commission – Rep. Howarlayk

This bill seeks to amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to make several changes to the requirements for Commissioners on the Natural Resources Commission.

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

HB 5001-5002 – Registered Forester – Rep. Rendon

These bills seek to amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act and the General Property Tax Act to establish the Registered Forester Program within the Department of Natural Resources.

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

HR 154 – Sandhill Cranes – Rep. Lower

This resolution would encourage the Natural Resources Commission to add Sandhill cranes to the game species list and seek U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service approval to establish a Sandhill crane hunting season.

- This resolution was reported from the House Committee on Natural Resources and is awaiting a vote on the House Floor.

If you would like to learn more about these and other bills, you can access the Michigan Legislature website at www.legislature.mi.gov.