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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



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TO: Natural Resources Commission
Department of Natural Resources Management Team

FROM: Craig Brunet, Legislative Liaison

SUBJECT: Department of Natural Resources Legislative Update

HB 4735, 4736, 4737 Prohibit Certain Activities with Information Obtained under Freedom of Information Act – Reps. VanSingel, Cherry, and Love

This legislation amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act by preventing an individual from using information listing the location of game obtained under the Freedom of Information Act to take game. The individual would be required to sign an affidavit stating that the data would not be used to take game or assist others in taking game.

- The bills were passed out of the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation and referred to the House Committee on Judiciary.
- The Administration supports this legislation.

HBs 4486, 4775, 4776 State Recreation Passport Opt-Out – Reps. Howell and Warren

This package of bills amends the Michigan Vehicle Code and the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (NREPA) requiring that an individual needs to elect not to pay for the state recreation passport during the issuance or renewal of a motor vehicle registration and modifies how revenue will be distributed from the state recreation passport fee. This is similar to a package of bills in the Senate, SBs 391, 392 and 405.

- The bills were referred to the House Committee on Transportation and a hearing was held on October 8, 2019.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this legislation.

HB 4833 Prohibit Import or Transfer of Live Cervidae from CWD Positive Region - Rep. Albert

The bill seeks to amend the Animal Industry Act to prohibit the import or transfer of privately owned live cervidae from a region that has tested positive for chronic wasting disease.

- The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) has now been assigned as the lead agency.
- This bill has been referred to the House Standing Committee on Agriculture.

House Bills 5002 and 5003 Youth Fishing License – Reps. Howell and Brixie

This bill package would reinstitute a \$2.00 fee for resident and nonresident youth under 17 years of age who wish to obtain an all-species fishing license. Youth under 17, would still be allowed to fish in Michigan without a license. However, youth under 17 who wish to purchase an all-species fishing license, would once again be able to do so for a \$2.00 fee.

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

HB 4567, 4568, 4569 Update Commercial Fishing Statute – Reps. O’Malley, Wendzel, Lilly

The legislative package will update the commercial fishing statute. The bills include language that establishes/updates fees and penalties, clarifies authority regarding the commercial fishing industry, updates reporting requirements and codifies several existing practices under administrative rules or Director’s Orders.

- The bills passed out of the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation on October 8, 2019 and have been referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.
- The Administration is in support of this legislation.