

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

#### COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

REP. JULIE ALEXANDER
CHAIR

# **COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, September 18, 2019

10:30 AM

Room 326, House Office Building

The House Standing Committee on Agriculture was called to order by Chair Alexander.

The Chair requested attendance be called:

Present: Reps. Alexander, Meerman, LaFave, Eisen, Mueller, Wendzel, Elder, Coleman,

Garza, Cynthia Johnson, Witwer.

Absent/Excused: None.

Representative Wendzel moved to adopt the meeting minutes from September 4, 2019. There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

The Chair laid HR 0104 before the committee:

HR 0104

(Rep. Gay-Dagnogo) A resolution to memorialize the United States Department of Agriculture to recognize industrial hemp as a valuable agricultural commodity and to take certain steps to remove barriers to encourage the commercial production of this crop.

Chair Alexander explained proposed substitute (H-1) to HR 104.

Representative LaFave moved to adopt substitute (H-1) to HR 104. The motion prevailed 11-0-0:

### FAVORABLE ROLL CALL

Yeas: Reps. Alexander, Meerman, LaFave, Eisen, Mueller, Wendzel, Elder, Coleman, Garza, Cynthia Johnson, Witwer.

Nays: None. Pass: None.

Representative Gay-Dagnogo, joined by Margeaux Bruner, representing the Michigan Cannabis Industry Association, testified in support of HR 104 as substitute (H-1).

Ron Bates, representing Michigan State University Extension, provided a presentation regarding Industrial Hemp and reviewed the following topics: History and Regulation; Uses and Markets; and Agronomy.

The Chair returned to HR 104.

Peter Behncke, representing Michigan Industrial Hemp, LLC, testified in support of HR 104 as a licensed hemp grower and processor.

Jesse Riggs, representing Michigan Hemp Industries Association, testified in support of HR 104. Questions and discussion followed.

Representative Gay-Dagnogo, Margeaux Bruner, Ron Bates, Peter Behncke, and Jesse Riggs, all approached to answer questions from committee members.

The following people submitted a card in support of HR 0104, but did not wish to speak:

David Worthams, representing the Michigan Bankers Association.

Representative Elder moved to report out HR 0104 with recommendation, as substitute (H-1). The motion prevailed 11-0-0.

### FAVORABLE ROLL CALL

Yeas: Reps. Alexander, Meerman, LaFave, Eisen, Mueller, Wendzel, Elder, Coleman, Garza, Cynthia Johnson, Witwer.

Nays: None. Pass: None.

There being no further business before the committee, Rep. Julie Alexander adjourned the meeting at 11:36 AM.

Representative Julie Alexander, Chair

Dakota Soda Committee Clerk dsoda@house.mi.gov