

MINUTES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Wednesday, March 12, 2014 9:00 a.m. Room 307 House Office Building, Lansing

Representative Daley, Chair, called the Committee to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Representatives Daley, Denby, Kurtz, Glardon, Johnson, McBroom, Outman, Rendon, Victory, Lauwers, Pagel, Brunner, Smiley, Hovey-Wright, LaVoy, Geiss, Talabi.

Representative Geiss made a motion to adopt the minutes of the meeting of February 26, 2014. No objections being offered, the minutes were accepted as presented.

The Chair laid the following bill before the Committee.

HB 5195 (LaFontaine) Food; processors; wild game sausage; allow mixing of game from more than 1 owner and not butchered by a licensed food establishment if consumer is given written advisory.

Representative LaFontaine reviewed the provisions of HB 5195 with the Committee.

Derek Bajema and Kevin Besey, representing the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, spoke to the Committee in support of HB 5195.

Lori Thelen, representing the Michigan Association of Conservation Districts, provided a presentation and discussed: the origin of conservation districts, Michigan conservation districts; the conservation partnership; Michigan conservation districts today; how Michigan conservation districts work; programs and assistance provided by Michigan conservation districts; NRCS financial assistance "Farm Bill" (1999-2013); conservation district assistance; lakes; rivers and streams; forests and wetlands; urban landscapes; habitat restoration; invasive species monitoring; clean ups; hazardous waste collections; and education.

Joanne Barnard, representing the Barry County Conservation District, also spoke to the Committee regarding conservation district issues.

There being no additional business before the Committee, Chair Daley declared the meeting adjourned, the time being 10:11 a.m.

Representative Kevin Daley, Chair

Catherine Petroskey, Committee Clerk (517) 373-8538