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| HB 4323 | Pettalia | Natural resources; forests; private forest management; provide oversight from the department of agriculture and rural development and provide for conservation district assistance to owners of forestland. |
| HB 4324 | Foster | Agriculture; other; Michigan agriculture environmental assurance program; expand to include lands not utilized for traditional or production agriculture such as forest management. |
| HB 4325 | Goike | Natural resources; forests; promotion of forestry and the development of the forest products industry in the state; require of the departments of agriculture and rural development and natural resources. |
| SB 51 | Booher | Property tax; classification; qualified forest property tax program; modify. |
| SB 52 | Booher | Property tax; classification; qualified forest property; provide property tax exemption. |
| SB 53 | Booher | Property tax; other; qualified forest property recapture tax; revise. |
| SB 54 | Casperson | Property tax; classification; allocation of qualified forest property recapture tax; modify. |
| SB 55 | Green | Property tax; exemptions; definition of qualified agricultural property; revise. |
| SB 56 | Booher | Natural resources; forests; private forest management; provide oversight from the department of agriculture and rural development and provide for conservation district assistance to owners of forestland. |
| SB 57 | Meekhof | Agriculture; other; Michigan agriculture environmental assurance program; expand to include lands not utilized for traditional or production agriculture such as forest management. |
| SB 58 | Moolenaar | Natural resources; forests; promotion of forestry and the development of the forest products industry in the state; provide for. |
| SB 59 | Booher | Natural resources; forests; commercial forests; modify eligibility requirements for commercial forests and allow for withdrawal under certain circumstances. |

Chair LaFontaine offered the substitute (H-1) for House Bill 4069.

Representative Rendon moved to adopt the substitute (H-1) for House Bill 4069.

The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Representatives LaFontaine, Rendon, Goike, Johnson, McBroom, Victory, Smiley, Dianda, and Kivela, (9/9)

Nays: None. (0)

The substitute (H-1) was adopted for House Bill 4069.

Chair LaFontaine offered the substitute (H-2) for House Bill 4243.

Representative Rendon moved to adopt the substitute (H-2) for House Bill 4243.

The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Representatives LaFontaine, Rendon, Goike, Johnson, McBroom, Victory, Smiley, Dianda, and Kivela, (9/9)

Nays: None. (0)

The substitute (H-2) was adopted for House Bill 4243.

Chair LaFontaine offered the substitute (H-2) for House Bill 4244.

Representative Rendon moved to adopt the substitute (H-2) for House Bill 4244.

The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Representatives LaFontaine, Rendon, Goike, Johnson, McBroom, Victory, Smiley, Dianda, and Kivela, (9/9)

Nays: None. (0)

The substitute (H-2) was adopted for House Bill 4244.

Senator Booher, the main bill sponsor for the bill package, and Rick Lucas, representing the Michigan Association of Conservation Districts, introduced the bill package to committee members. Following their testimony, they responded to questions from various committee members.

Derek Bajeman, the Legislative Liaison for the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, and Richard Harlow, Farmland Preservation Manager in the Resource Conservation Section in the Environmental Stewardship Division in the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, testified in support of the bill package.

Representative McBroom, the bill sponsor for House Bill 4321, testified in support of the bill package. Following his remarks, Representative McBroom answered questions from committee members.

Virginia Coventry testified in support of the bill package. Ms. Coventry addressed questions from committee members after her comments.

Rebecca Park, representing Michigan Farm Bureau, testified in support of the bill package.

Amy Trotter, representing Michigan United Conservation Clubs, testified in support of House Bills 4069, 4243, 4244, 4321, 4322, 4324, 4325, and Senate Bills 52, 53, 54, 55, 57, 58, and 59. Ms. Trotter informed the committee members her organization is neutral on House Bills 4320 and 4323, and Senate Bills 51 and 56.

Lori Phalon, representing the Michigan Association of Conservation Districts, testified in support of the bill package.

Gerald Grossman, representing Grossman Forestry Company, testified in support of House Bill 4244 and Senate Bill 53, and expressed his concerns about the remaining bills in the package. A copy of his written testimony is attached to the report-out file for the bill package.

The following individuals submitted testimony cards in support of the bill, but did not wish to testify:

Gary Owen, representing Plum Creek Timber;
Scott Everett, representing Lake States Lumber Association;
Scott Robins, representing Michigan Forest Products Council;
Judy Augenstein, representing Great Lakes Timber Professionals and Michigan Association of Timbermen; and
Gary Melow, representing Michigan Biomass.

The Chair laid before the committee a presentation given by the Michigan Forest Products Council and Verso Paper Company.

Mike Sussman, representing the Michigan Forest Products Council and Verso Paper Company, spoke on "Growing Michigan's Economy-Michigan Forests". A copy of his handout is attached to the minutes.

At 1:15 p.m., the Chair went at ease at the call of the Chair.

At 2:45 p.m., the Chair re-convened the committee.

The Chair laid before the committee House Bills 4069, 4243, 4244, 4320-4325, and Senate Bills 51-59.

HB 4069 Foster	Natural resources; forests; classification of forestland as commercial forest; clarify requirements for inclusion and withdrawal of forestland.
HB 4243 McBroom	Property tax; other; qualified forest property recapture tax; revise.
HB 4244 Rendon	Property tax; classification; qualified forest property; provide property tax exemption.
HB 4320 LaFontaine	Property tax; classification; qualified forest property tax program; modify.

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HB 4321	McBroom	Property tax; classification; allocation of qualified forest property recapture tax; modify.
HB 4322	Victory	Property tax; exemptions; definition of qualified agricultural property; revise.
HB 4323	Pettalia	Natural resources; forests; private forest management; provide oversight from the department of agriculture and rural development and provide for conservation district assistance to owners of forestland.
HB 4324	Foster	Agriculture; other; Michigan agriculture environmental assurance program; expand to include lands not utilized for traditional or production agriculture such as forest management.
HB 4325	Goike	Natural resources; forests; promotion of forestry and the development of the forest products industry in the state; require of the departments of agriculture and rural development and natural resources.
SB 51	Booher	Property tax; classification; qualified forest property tax program; modify.
SB 52	Booher	Property tax; classification; qualified forest property; provide property tax exemption.
SB 53	Booher	Property tax; other; qualified forest property recapture tax; revise.
SB 54	Casperson	Property tax; classification; allocation of qualified forest property recapture tax; modify.
SB 55	Green	Property tax; exemptions; definition of qualified agricultural property; revise.
SB 56	Booher	Natural resources; forests; private forest management; provide oversight from the department of agriculture and rural development and provide for conservation district assistance to owners of forestland.
SB 57	Meekhof	Agriculture; other; Michigan agriculture environmental assurance program; expand to include lands not utilized for traditional or production agriculture such as forest management.
SB 58	Moolenaar	Natural resources; forests; promotion of forestry and the development of the forest products industry in the state; provide for.
SB 59	Booher	Natural resources; forests; commercial forests; modify eligibility requirements for commercial forests and allow for withdrawal under certain circumstances.

Representative Rendon moved to report House Bill 4069 with the recommendation that the substitute (H-1) be adopted and that the bill then pass.

The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Representatives LaFontaine, Rendon, Goike, Johnson, McBroom, Victory, Smiley, Dianda, and Kivela, (9/9)

Nays: None. (0)

The bill and the substitute were referred to the full House.

Representative Rendon moved to report House Bill 4243 with the recommendation that the substitute (H-2) be adopted and that the bill then pass.

The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Representatives LaFontaine, Rendon, Goike, Johnson, McBroom, Victory, Smiley, Dianda, and Kivela, (9/9)

Nays: None. (0)

The bill and the substitute were referred to the full House.

Representative Rendon moved to report House Bill 4244 with the recommendation that the substitute (H-2) be adopted and that the bill then pass.

The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Representatives LaFontaine, Rendon, Goike, Johnson, McBroom, Victory, Smiley, Dianda, and Kivela, (9/9)

Nays: None. (0)

The bill and the substitute were referred to the full House.

Representative Rendon moved to report House Bill 4320 without amendment and with the recommendation that the bill then pass.

The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Representatives LaFontaine, Rendon, Goike, Johnson, McBroom, Victory, Smiley, Dianda, and Kivela, (9/9)

Nays: None. (0)

The bill was referred to the full House.

Representative McBroom moved to report House Bill 4321 without amendment and with the recommendation that the bill then pass.

The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Representatives LaFontaine, Rendon, Goike, Johnson, McBroom, Victory, Smiley, Dianda, and Kivela, (9/9)

Nays: None. (0)

The bill was referred to the full House.

Representative Kivela moved to report House Bill 4322 without amendment and with the recommendation that the bill then pass.

The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Representatives LaFontaine, Rendon, Goike, Johnson, McBroom, Victory, Smiley, Dianda, and Kivela, (9/9)

Nays: None. (0)

The bill was referred to the full House.

Representative Kivela moved to report House Bill 4323 without amendment and with the recommendation that the bill then pass.

The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Representatives LaFontaine, Rendon, Goike, Johnson, McBroom, Victory, Smiley, Dianda, and Kivela, (9/9)

Nays: None. (0)

The bill was referred to the full House.

Representative Goike moved to report House Bill 4324 without amendment and with the recommendation that the bill then pass.

The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Representatives LaFontaine, Rendon, Goike, Johnson, McBroom, Victory, Smiley, Dianda, and Kivela, (9/9)

Nays: None. (0)

The bill was referred to the full House.

Representative Goike moved to report House Bill 4325 without amendment and with the recommendation that the bill then pass.

The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Representatives LaFontaine, Rendon, Goike, Johnson, McBroom, Victory, Smiley, Dianda, and Kivela, (9/9)

Nays: None. (0)

The bill was referred to the full House.

Representative Rendon moved to report Senate Bill 51 without amendment and with the recommendation that the bill then pass.

The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Representatives LaFontaine, Rendon, Goike, Johnson, McBroom, Victory, Smiley, Dianda, and Kivela, (9/9)

Nays: None. (0)

The bill was referred to the full House.

Representative McBroom moved to report Senate Bill 54 without amendment and with the recommendation that the bill then pass.

The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Representatives LaFontaine, Rendon, Goike, Johnson, McBroom, Victory, Smiley, Dianda, and Kivela, (9/9)

Nays: None. (0)

The bill was referred to the full House.

Representative McBroom moved to report Senate Bill 55 without amendment and with the recommendation that the bill then pass.

The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Representatives LaFontaine, Rendon, Goike, Johnson, McBroom, Victory, Smiley, Dianda, and Kivela, (9/9)

Nays: None. (0)

The bill was referred to the full House.

Representative McBroom moved to report Senate Bill 56 without amendment and with the recommendation that the bill then pass.

The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Representatives LaFontaine, Rendon, Goike, Johnson, McBroom, Victory, Smiley, Dianda, and Kivela, (9/9)

Nays: None. (0)

The bill was referred to the full House.

Representative Rendon moved to report Senate Bill 57 without amendment and with the recommendation that the bill then pass.

The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Representatives LaFontaine, Rendon, Goike, Johnson, McBroom, Victory, Smiley, Dianda, and Kivela, (9/9)

Nays: None. (0)

The bill was referred to the full House.

Representative Goike moved to report Senate Bill 58 without amendment and with the recommendation that the bill then pass.

The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Representatives LaFontaine, Rendon, Goike, Johnson, McBroom, Victory, Smiley, Dianda, and Kivela, (9/9)

Nays: None. (0)

The bill was referred to the full House.

There being no other business before the committee; **Representative McBroom moved to adjourn the meeting.**

The motion prevailed by unanimous consent of members present, the time being 2:55 p.m.

The Chair declared the Committee adjourned.

Andrea M. LaFontaine, Chair
House Standing Committee on Natural Resources

Joy Brewer, Committee Clerk

Date approved by the committee