



MICHIGAN  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
P.O. Box 30014  
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909-7514

Minutes of the House Standing Committee  
on  
**Natural Resources**

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Tuesday, March 25, 2014

12:00 Noon

Room 307 House Office Building

The House Standing Committee on Natural Resources was called to order by Representative Andrea L. LaFontaine, Chair.

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The Clerk called the roll; members present were **Representatives LaFontaine, Rendon, Goike, Johnson, McBroom, Victory, Smiley, Dianda, and Kivela. (9/9)**

The Clerk announced that a quorum was present.

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The Chair laid before the committee the minutes of March 18, 2014 as printed.

**Representative Goike moved to adopt the minutes of March 18, 2014 as printed. There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent of the members present; the minutes were adopted as printed.**

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The Chair laid before the committee House Bills 5400, 5401, and 5402.

**HB 5400 (Schmidt)** Environmental protection; solid waste; low-hazard industrial waste, beneficial use by-products, and inert material; reduce regulation of.

**HB 5401 (McBroom)** Environmental protection; cleanups; person who stores or uses inert materials and beneficial use by-products; exempt from liability.

**HB 5402 (Potvin)** Agriculture; fertilizer; liming material licensing conditions; provide for beneficial use by-products and inert materials.

**The Chair offered the substitute (H-1) for House Bill 5400.**

**Representative Rendon moved to adopt the substitute (H-1) for House Bill 5400.**

**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.

**The Chair offered the substitute (H-1) for House Bill 5402.**

**Representative Rendon moved to adopt the substitute (H-1) for House Bill 5402.**

**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.

The Chair announced she would be taking testimony first from the individuals who submitted cards wishing to testify on Tuesday, March 18, 2014. Gary Melow, Director of Michigan Biomass stated he was in support of the bill, but did not need to testify as previous indicated on his card.

James Clift, Policy Director for the Michigan Environmental Council testified in opposition to the bill package. Following his testimony, Mr. Clift responded to various committee members' questions. A copy of his written testimony is attached.

Charles Lippstreu, representing James E. Byrum, President of the Board of Directors of Michigan Agri-Business Association, read the president's remarks. A copy of Mr. Byrum's written testimony is attached.

Dan Batts, President of the Michigan Waste Industries Association testified in opposition to the bills. Mr. Batts following his remarks answered various questions from members of the committee. A copy of his written testimony is attached.

Maggie Datema, Legislative Liaison for the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, explained the substitutes for the House Bills 5400 and 5402, and addressed questions from committee members. Steve Sliver, Chief of Waste Management Division of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, answered questions from members.

The following individuals submitted testimony cards, but did not wish to speak:

Jason Wadaga, representing the Michigan Sugar Company, neutral on the bills;

George Carr, representing Michigan Concrete Association, Michigan Groundwater Association, and WE Energies, support substitutes with amendments;

Andy Such, Director of Environmental and Regulatory Policy in the Government Affairs Office for the Michigan Manufacturers Association; support bills; and

Alicia Prygoski, Legislative and Political Assistant for the Michigan League of Conservation Voters, opposing the bills.

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The Chair announced the various groups need to meet with the bill sponsors before Thursday, April 17, 2014, when she will be taking up the bills.

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

**The motion prevailed by unanimous consent of members present,** the time being 12:40 p.m.

The Chair declared the Committee adjourned.

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

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Joy Brewer, Committee Clerk

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Date approved by the committee