



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, April 29, 2014

12:00 Noon

Room 326 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 April 17, 2014 as printed.

**Representative Kivela moved to adopt the minutes of April 17, 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 Senate Bill 59.

**SB 59      Booher**                      Natural resources; forests; commercial forests; modify eligibility requirements for commercial forests and allow for withdrawal under certain circumstances.

Kara Butters, Legislative Assistant to Senator Booher, the bill sponsor, explained the substitute (H-1) to committee members. Following her explanation, Ms. Butters responded to questions from various committee members.

Derek Bajeman, the Legislative Liaison for the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, provided further comments on the substitute.

The following individuals submitted testimony cards:

Lori Phalen, representing the Michigan Association of Conservation Districts;  
Tom Frazier, Legislative Liaison for the Michigan Townships Association;  
Judy Augenstein, representing Great Lakes Timber Professionals and Michigan Association of Timbermen; and  
Gary Melow, Director of Michigan Biomass.

**Chair LaFontaine offered the substitute (H-1) for Senate Bill 59.**

**Representative Rendon moved to adopt the substitute (H-1) for Senate Bill 59.**

**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 Senate Bill 59.

**Representative Rendon moved to report Senate Bill 59 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.

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The Chair laid before the committee House Bill 5361.

**HB 5361 (Smiley)** Natural resources; hunting; small game hunting from a personal assistive mobility device; allow.

Representative Smiley, the bill sponsor, explained the need for the legislation to committee members. Following his introduction of the bill, Representative Smiley answered questions from various committee members.

Trevor VanDyke, Legislative Liaison and Policy Advisor for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, testified in support of the bill. Following his testimony, Mr. Van Dyke and Lt. Creig Grey from the Law Enforcement Division in the Michigan Department of Natural Resources addressed questions from the various committee members.

Matt Evans, Legislative Affairs Manager for Michigan United Conservation Clubs, submitted a testimony card in support of the bill, but did not wish to testify.

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

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**The motion prevailed by unanimous consent of members present**, the time being 12:20 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