



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

Minutes of the House Standing Committee
on
Natural Resources

Tuesday, May 6, 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.

—————
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.

—————
The Chair laid before the committee the minutes of April 29, 2014 as printed.

Representative Rendon moved to adopt the minutes of April 29, 2014 as printed. There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent of the members present; the minutes were adopted as printed.

—————
The Chair laid before the committee Senate Bill 869.

SB 869 (Hansen) Natural resources; fishing; bass season dates; revise.

Senator Hansen, the bill sponsor, explained the substitute (H-1) to 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 addressed questions from a committee member.

Dan Kimmel, Conservation Director for Michigan Bass Anglers Sportsman Society, testified in support of the bill. A copy of his written testimony is attached.

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.

Representative Goike moved to report Senate Bill 869 with the recommendation that the bill 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.

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.

Chair LaFontaine offered the substitute (H-1) for House Bill 5361

Representative Goike moved to adopt the substitute (H-1) for House Bill 5361.

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 5361.

Representative Dianda offered the following amendments to House Bill 5361 (H-1):

1. Amend page 2, line 17, after "DEVICE" by inserting "OR ORV".
2. Amend page 2, line 20, after "DEVICE" by inserting "OR ORV".
3. Amend page 2, line 22, after "DEVICE" by inserting "OR ORV".

4. Amend page 3, following line 8, by inserting:

"(A) "ORV" MEANS THAT TERM AS DEFINED IN SECTION 81101." and relettering the remaining subdivisions.

Trevor VanDyke, Legislative Liaison and Policy Advisor for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, read the amendments and explained the concerns the department could have with the amendments as written. Mr. VanDyke answered further questions from the various committee members on the suggested amendments.

Discussion followed and Representative Dianda agreed to work with the department to come up with new language.

The Chair informed all parties it was her intention to move the bill to the floor next week.

The Chair laid before the committee a presentation titled “Operation Freedom Outdoors”.

Dr. Russell Mason, Chief of the Wildlife Division of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, briefed the committee on department’s business plan with its collaborative partnership efforts between groups to provide outstanding outdoor recreation opportunities to Michigan’s wounded veterans and individuals with health challenges. A copy of the department’s handout is attached.

John Cornack, President of the Eisenhower Center, provided the committee with the background information about the role his group plays with helping veterans overcome issues using Camp Liberty’s outdoor setting.

Captain Jeremy Briggs, President of Camp Liberty, expounded that Camp Liberty was designed to aid in the rehabilitation and reintegration of United States military service members, Veterans and their families, through inclusive outdoor recreation programs.

Tim Hunnicutt, Co-Founder/CEO of Zero Day a Lansing, Michigan based non-profit, elucidated further on what their partnership with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Operation Freedom Outdoor program does to integrate veterans once again to have a life with dignity and a purpose.

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

The motion prevailed by unanimous consent of members present, the time being 12:41 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