



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

Minutes of the House Standing Committee
on
Natural Resources

Tuesday, May 20, 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.

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 May 13, 2014 as printed.

Representative Goike moved to adopt the minutes of May 13, 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 444.

SB 444 (Casperson) Natural resources; nonnative species; permits for treatment of aquatic invasive species; revise, and authorize certain local ordinances.

Kendra Everett, Legislative Director for the bill sponsor, explained the bill to the committee members. Ms. Everett answered questions following her introduction of the bill.

Maggie Datema, Legislative Liaison and Policy Director for the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, stated the department's concerns with the bill. Eric Bacon, ANC Processor in the Lakes Michigan and Superior Permits Unit of the Water Resources Division in the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, answered questions of various committee members.

Sam Boumis, representing the Michigan Aquatic Managers Association, introduced Dick Pinagel, the President, and Joe Bondra, the Chair of the Legislative Committee. Mr. Pinagel and Mr. Bondra testified in support of the bill, and answered questions from committee members.

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.

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

Dondre Young, Policy Assistant at the Michigan League of Conservation Voters,
opposing;

John LaMacchia, representing the Michigan Municipal League, supporting;
Matt Kurta, representing Michigan Waterfront Alliance, supporting; and
Tom Frazier, Legislative Liaison at the Michigan Townships Association,
supporting.

The following individuals submitted written testimony:

Jennifer McKay, Policy Specialist, Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council, opposing;
Mike Berkowitz, Legislative and Political Director, Sierra Club Michigan
Chapter, opposing;

Greg Wenzel, President of Cisco Chain Riparian Owners Association, supporting;
and

John Hoek, supporting.

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 12:48 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