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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



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July 11, 2019

TO: Natural Resources Commission
Department of Natural Resources Management Team

FROM: Craig Brunet, Legislative Liaison

SUBJECT: Department of Natural Resources Legislative Update

HB 4331 Allow an Individual to Possess a Loaded Firearm in or on a Vehicle when on Private Property – Rep. LaFave

This bill amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to allow an individual to possess or transport a loaded firearm in or upon a vehicle, including an ATV or UTV, if the individual owns the private land or is accompanied by or has permission of the owner or lessee of the private land.

- This bill passed the House of Representatives on May 24, 2019 and has been referred to the Senate Committee on Government Operations.
- The Administration is opposed to this legislation.

HB 4332 – Allow Pneumatic Airbows During Certain Seasons – Rep. LaFave

This bill amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to allow an individual with a disability or physical limitation to use a pneumatic gun during any season in which a bow may be used for the taking of game.

- This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation and one hearing has occurred.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this legislation.

HB 4463 Exempt Certain Vehicles from State Recreation Passport – Rep. LaFave

This legislation amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act by exempting from the state recreation passport any motor vehicle operated to transport passengers for hire, if the vehicle is only parked to pick up or drop off passengers within a state park, or for a vehicle parked at a state operated public boating access site on a free fishing day.

- This bill was referred to the House Committee on Transportation and one hearing has occurred.
- The Administration is opposed to this legislation.

HB 4567, 4568, 4569 Update Commercial Fishing Statute – Reps. O’Malley, Wendzel, Lilly

The legislative package will update the commercial fishing statute. The bills include language that establishes/updates fees and penalties, clarifies authority regarding the commercial fishing industry, updates reporting requirements and codifies several existing practices under administrative rules or Director’s Orders.

- The bills were referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation and multiple hearings have been held.
- The Administration is in support of this legislation.

HB 4589 Eastern Wild Turkey as State Game Bird – Rep. Howell

The legislation would name the Eastern Wild Turkey as the state’s official game bird.

- The bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation and one hearing has occurred.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this legislation.

HB 4659 Require Tick Signage – Rep. Kennedy

This legislation amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to require that all state park entrances, state park and state forest campgrounds and access points to state trails have uniform signs alerting that ticks may be found in the area and that bites may result in Lyme disease or other tick-borne diseases.

- The bill was referred to the House Committee on Health Policy and one hearing has occurred.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this legislation.

HB 4693 – Authorizes State Park Rangers to Enforce Marijuana Related Offenses – Rep. Mueller

This legislation amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act by authorizing state park rangers to have the ability to enforce marijuana related offenses within state parks, state recreation areas, state forest campgrounds and at boating access sites.

- The bill was referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and one hearing has occurred.
- The Administration is in support of this legislation.

HB 4735, 4736 – Prohibit Certain Activities with Information Obtained under Freedom of Information Act – Reps. VanSingel, Cherry

This legislation amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act by preventing an individual from using information listing the location of game obtained under the Freedom of Information Act to take game. The individual would be required to sign an affidavit stating that the data would not be used to take game or assist others in taking game.

- The bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this legislation.

HB 4740 – Designate Dr. T.K. Lawless Park as a Dark Sky Preserve – Rep. Miller

This legislation amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act by including the Dr. T.K. Lawless Park in Porter and Newberg Townships, Cass County as a Dark Sky Preserve.

- The bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this legislation.

HB 4775, 4776 – State Recreation Passport Opt-out – Reps. Howell, Warren

This legislation amends the Michigan Vehicle Code requiring that an individual need to elect not to pay for the state recreation passport during the issuance or renewal of a motor vehicle registration. The legislation also modifies how revenue will be distributed from the state recreation passport fee. The bills are tie-barred to HB 4486.

- This bill was referred to the House Committee on Transportation.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this legislation.

HB 4790 - Update Commercial Fishing Statute – Rep. Cambensy

The legislative package will update the commercial fishing statute. The bills include language that establishes/updates fees and penalties, clarifies authority regarding the commercial fishing industry, updates reporting requirements and codifies several existing practices under administrative rules or Director's Orders. The bill is identical to SB 389.

- The legislation was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation.
- The Administration has not taken a position on the legislation.

HB 4791 – Allow Individuals to Hunt from a Vehicle on Private Property – Rep. LaFave

This legislation amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to allow an individual to carry a loaded firearm, bow, or crossbow in or upon a vehicle and will allow the individual to discharge the weapon to take game from a vehicle if the individual is on private property.

- The legislation was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this legislation.

SB 35 –Youth Hunt Requirements – Sen. VanderWall

This bill seeks to amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to require a minor that is participating in the youth hunt weekend to take an antlerless deer before they can take an antlered deer.

- This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and one hearing has occurred.
- The Administration is in opposition to this legislation.

**SB 366 and 367 - Create a Qualified Nonresident License for Reduced Fee –
Sens. McBroom, VanderWall**

The legislation amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to create a new license category for qualified nonresidents. The new license would be a 50% reduction from other nonresident licenses. Individuals would be considered a qualified nonresident if they meet any of the following; the individual owns land in Michigan, signs an affidavit that the individual previously lived in the state, or if the individual has ever previously possessed a resident hunting license or has completed a hunter safety training in Michigan.

- The legislation was referred to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and one hearing has occurred.
- The Administration is in opposition to this legislation.

SB 389 - Update Commercial Fishing Statute – Sen. Daley

The legislative package will update the commercial fishing statute. The bills include language that establishes/updates fees and penalties, clarifies authority regarding the commercial fishing industry, updates reporting requirements and codifies several existing practices under administrative rules or Director's Orders. This bill is identical to HB 4790.

- The legislation was referred to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources.
- The Administration has not taken a position on the legislation.