



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



DANIEL EICHINGER
DIRECTOR

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TO: Natural Resources Commission

FROM: Craig Brunet, Legislative Liaison

SUBJECT: Department of Natural Resources (Department) Legislative Update

HB 4041 – Provide 2 Week Preference of State Camp Sites for State Residents – Rep. Steven Johnson

This legislation amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to require that all state camp sites be first offered for reservation to residents of the state for at least 2 weeks. The legislation includes reservations for all campground sites, cabins, yurts and lodges.

- The bill was referred to the House Committee on Oversight and one hearing has been held.
- The Administration is opposed to this legislation.

HB 4080 – Allow Pneumatic Guns During Certain Seasons – Rep. LaFave

This bill amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to provide the NRC the ability to allow an individual to use a pneumatic gun during any firearm season. The bill would also give the Department the ability to determine whether a pneumatic gun could be allowed during archery season for individual with a disability or physical limitation.

- This bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation and one hearing has been held.
- The Administration is opposed to this legislation.

HB 4088 (H-1) – Allow Supplemental feeding of Wildlife and Birds – Rep. Borton

This bill amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to allow for the feeding of wildlife and birds if both of the following conditions are met: the feed is located within 300 feet from a residence and the quantity of feed placed, scattered, or distributed within 300 feet of that residence does not exceed two gallons.

- The bill referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation and one hearing has been held.
- The Administration is opposed to this legislation.

HB 4138 – Decriminalize Improper Display of a Snowmobile Registration Decal or Trail Permit – Rep. Alexander

This bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to decriminalize the improper display of a snowmobile registration decal or trail permit sticker from a misdemeanor to a civil infraction with a fine of up to \$150.00.

- The bill was passed by the House and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

HB 4149 (H-1) – Modify Certain Penalties for Certain Fishing Violations – Rep. Damoose

The bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to modify the following fishing violations to a civil infraction with a fine of not more than \$150.00: fails to attach the individual's name and address to tip-ups in violation of section 48703(2); or fishes with more than the authorized number of lines in violation of section 48703(1).

- The bill was passed by the House and referred to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

HB 4151 – Modify Penalties for Certain Hunting and Fishing Licensing Violations – Rep. S. Johnson

The bill would decriminalize failure to carry your hunting or fishing license to a civil infraction with a fine of up to \$150.00.

- The bill was passed by the House and referred to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

HB 4152 (H-2) – Modify Penalties for Violations of Certain Hunting Provisions – Rep. Howell

The bill would decriminalize the following hunting provisions from a misdemeanor to a civil infraction with a fine up to \$150.00: failure to attach individual's name, driver license number, or sportcard number to a ground blind; failure to attach individual's name, driver license number, or sportcard number to a tree stand, scaffold, or raised platform; and supplemental feeding of deer.

- The bill was passed by the House and referred to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

**HB 4242 – Allow Export of Live Minnows, Wigglers or Crayfish as Bait
– Rep. Alexander**

This bill would allow for the export of live minnow, wigglers, or crayfish as bait.

- The bill was reported with recommendation from the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation and awaiting a vote on the House floor.
- The Administration is neutral on this legislation.

HB 4332 – Modify Placement of Off-Road Vehicle Stickers – Rep. S. Johnson

This bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to require the license for a 2-wheel vehicle to be attached to either of the following: centered on the exposed surface of the rear fender or located at a visible place on a front suspension fork.

- The bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation and one hearing has been held.
- The Administration is neutral on this legislation.

HB 4363 (H-1) – Modify Time Periods for Certain DNR Land Transactions – Rep. Howell

The bill would extend the time-period for the DNR to approve or deny an application for a proposed exchange of state land and for a proposed sale of surplus land, from 180 days to 210 days. The bill would also require the DNR to provide public notice at least 30 days before making a decision to dispose of, lease, or develop certain public land of more than 80 acres in size.

- The bill was passed by the House and referred to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources.
- The Administration is in support of this legislation.

HB 4469 – Provide Appropriations from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund – Rep. Allor

This bill contains the recommendations made by the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Board for Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant awards for Fiscal Year 2021. The appropriation totals almost \$39.2 million in project funding from the trust fund.

- The bill was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate. The bill has been signed into law by the Governor and is Public Act 9 of 2021.
- The Administration supports this legislation.

HB 4470 (H-2) – Revise Penalty for Illegal Taking of Sturgeon - Rep. Allor

The bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to increase the maximum fine for the illegally taking of a sturgeon to \$5,000.00. The statute currently allows for a fine of between \$500.00 to a maximum of \$2,000.00.

- This bill was reported with recommendation by the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation and referred to the House Committee on Judiciary.
- The Administration is in support of this legislation.

SCR 6 – Resolution Urging NRC and Department to End Study on APR in CWD Core Area – Sen. McBroom

A concurrent resolution to urge the Natural Resources Commission and the Department of Natural Resources to end the research study begun in 2019 concerning the effectiveness of antler point restrictions as a management tool in the chronic wasting disease core area.

- The resolution was adopted by the Senate and House.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this resolution.

SCR 7 – Resolution Urging NRC and Department to Organize Wolf Hunting and Trapping in 2021 – Sen. McBroom

A concurrent resolution to urge the Natural Resources Commission to authorize, and the Department of Natural Resources to organize, wolf hunting and trapping as part of the state's wolf management efforts beginning in 2021.

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