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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
LANSING



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August 12, 2021

TO: Natural Resources Commission

FROM: Craig Brunet, Legislative Liaison

SUBJECT: Department of Natural Resources (Department) Legislative Update

**HBs 4205 and 4206 – Provide Free Snowmobile Weekend on Snowmobile Trails – Reps. Roth and S. Johnson**

House Bill 4205 would require that before the start of each snowmobile season, the Department would be required to designate one weekend in the snowmobile season during which a registration would not be required to operate a snowmobile on snowmobile trails. House Bill 4206 would require that before the start of each snowmobile season, the Department would be required to designate one weekend in the snowmobile season during which a trail permit would not be required to operate a snowmobile on snowmobile trails.

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

**HB 4980 (H-1) – Exempt Drag Racing Prohibition from Statue for Silver Lake State Park – Rep. VanSingel**

The bill would amend the Michigan Motor Vehicle Code to establish an exception for activities relating to speed or acceleration contests or drag racing at Silver Lake State Park.

- The bill was passed by the House of Representatives and Senate and signed into law by the Governor. The bill is Public Act 75 of 2021.
- The Administration is neutral on this legislation.

**HB 5078 – Modifies Membership of the Michigan Wildlife Council – Rep. Aiyash**

The bill would modify membership for the Michigan Wildlife Council to expand to include: two individuals with expertise in wildlife issues, wildlife habitat, or wildlife management. These individuals must also be a representative of a nonprofit organization that both supports the conservation and enhancement of wildlife and habitat in this state and promotes primarily nonconsumptive wildlife use. The bill would also expand membership to include: an individual representing a tribal government in this state and an individual with a master's degree, from an accredited institution of higher education, in zoology, wildlife management, or a related discipline of science and the equivalent of 6 years of full-time relevant experience.

- The bill has been referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation.

- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

**HB 5079 – Modifies Membership of the Wolf Management Advisory Council – Rep. Sowerby**

The bill would modify membership for the Wolf Management Advisory Council to expand from one individual to two individuals representing organizations that promotes conservation in this state and require one of them to represent a nonprofit organization that supports and promotes the conservation and enhancement of this state's wildlife and habitat, recognizes and promotes primarily nonconsumptive wildlife use, and has expertise in wildlife issues, wildlife habitat, or wildlife management. The bill expand membership to include one member with a master's degree from an accredited institution of higher education in zoology, wildlife management, or a related discipline of science and the equivalent of 6 years of full-time relevant experience.

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

**HB 5185 – Allow Feeding and Baiting of Deer and Elk – Rep. Hoitenga**

The bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (NREPA) to allow an individual to engage in deer and elk feeding during the open seasons in some circumstances.

- The bill has been referred to the House Committee on Regulatory Reform.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

**SB 590 – Require Conservation Officers to Wear Body Cameras While on Patrol – Sen. McBroom**

The bill would require conservation officers to wear body cameras while on patrol.

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