

Upper Peninsula Sportsmen's Alliance

PO Box 54
Quinnesec, MI 49876

September 30, 2019

Honorable Representative Gary Howell
RE HB 4567, HB 4568, HB4569

Representative Howell,

The Upper Peninsula Sportsmen's Alliance represents Sportsmen's clubs in throughout the State of Michigan that boasts members in excess of 50,000.

Our Fish Committee and Executive Committees have reviewed HB 4567, HB 4568 and HB 4569. We will not have a meeting until November 2, 2019. When we have items of interest between meetings we normally pass it to the applicable committee and then to the executive committee.

In spirit we agree and support the bills. We do believe they can be strengthened in the following ways:

- Removing bycatch from the bills.
- Trust but verify self-reporting
- Remove White and Black Crappie from the list of allowed commercial take
- Commercial fishing licenses can be transferred to children or grand-children. Not unlike CP's, Attorneys or Barbers the value of the business rests in the equipment and buildings not the license
- A licensee must catch a number of pounds in a period in order to maintain a license, i.e., 5,000 pounds in 2 years must be caught and reported to maintain the license.

Again we do support the bills in spirit, but they can be strengthened.

Regards,

David J Johnson
President
UPSA