



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

**MINUTES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE**

**Wednesday, December 6, 2017 10:30 a.m. Room 327 House Office Building, Lansing**

Representative Barrett, Chair, called the meeting to order.

The Chair read in a letter dated November 30, 2017 from Speaker Tom Leonard to Clerk Gary Randall appointing Representative Cambensy to the Committee to replace Representative Brinks.

**MEMBERS PRESENT: Representatives Barrett, Alexander, Lauwers, Howell, Albert, Calley, Frederick, Elder, Phelps, Sabo, Sneller, Cambensy.**

Representative Howell made a motion to adopt the minutes from the meeting held on November 1, 2017. No objections being offered, the minutes were accepted as presented.

The Chair laid the following bill before the Committee.

SB 375 (Booher) Energy; conservation and efficiency; methane digesters; make eligible for property assessed clean energy financing.

Representative Lauwers made a motion to report SB 375 with recommendation.

**FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:**

**Yeas: Representatives Barrett, Alexander, Lauwers, Howell, Albert, Calley, Frederick, Elder, Phelps, Sabo, Sneller, Cambensy. (12/12)**

**Nays: None. (0/12)**

**Pass: None. (0/12) (12/0/0)**

A sufficient number of members voting in the affirmative, the motion prevailed.

Cards indicating support for SB 375 were submitted by:

Liesl Clark, representing Michigan EIBC

Andrew Vermeesch, representing the Michigan Farm Bureau

The Chair laid the following bill before the Committee.

HB 5227 (Victory) Agriculture; regulation; seed potato standards for distributing, growing, and planting; require to comply with the national harmonization program.

Representative Victory reviewed the provisions of the bill with the Committee.

Mike Wenkel, representing the Potato Growers of Michigan, was present to answer questions and indicated support for the bill.

Cards indicating support for HB 5227 were submitted by:

Kevin Storm, representing Fresh Solution Farms and Walther Farms

Rodney J. Krueger from Hawks, Michigan

Dennis Iott, representing Iott Seed Farms and Potato Growers of Michigan

John Makenwicz from Elmira, Michigan

Gary Walther, representing Walther Seed Farms

Rebecca Park, representing the Michigan Farm Bureau

Matt Blakely, representing the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD), submitted a card indicating a neutral position on the bill.

There being no additional business before the Committee, Chair Barrett declared the meeting adjourned, the time being 10:44 a.m.

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Representative Tom Barrett, Chair

Catherine Petroskey, Committee Clerk (517) 373-8538