



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

Minutes of the House Standing Committee
on
Natural Resources

Wednesday, March 29, 2017 9:00 a.m. Room 326, House Office Building

The House Standing Committee on Natural Resources was called to order by Representative Gary Howell, Chair.

The Clerk called the roll; members present were **Representatives Howell, LaFave, Maturen, Bellino, Rendon, VanderWall, Kivela, Chang, and Sowerby. (9/9)**

The Chair laid before the committee the minutes of March 22, 2017 as printed.

Representative Rendon moved to adopt the minutes of March 22, 2017, as printed. There being no objection the motion prevailed by unanimous consent of the members present; the minutes were adopted as printed.

The Chair laid before the committee a presentation on “Becoming an Outdoors Woman (BOW).”

Sandy Kivela and Tara Gluski, Instructors for BOW, briefed the committee members about the program in the Upper Peninsula. Questions followed. A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is attached.

The Chair laid before the committee a presentation on the Michigan Oil and Gas Association.

Erin McDonough, President and Chief Executive Officer for the Michigan Oil and Gas Association, introduced Richard Sandtvelt, Vice President of Engineering of the Trendwell Energy Corporation, provided an overview of the oil and gas industry in Michigan. Questions followed. Copy of the PowerPoint presentation is attached to the minutes.

The Chair laid before the committee Senate Bill 129.

SB 129 (Casperson) Natural resources; mining; small native copper mining operations; establish separate regulatory program for.

Sean Hammond, Deputy Policy Director for the Michigan Environmental Council, testified in opposition to the bill. Questions followed. A copy of his written testimony is attached.

Tom Frazier, Legislative Liaison for Michigan Townships Association, testified in opposition to the bill.

The following individuals submitted testimony cards in opposition to the bill, but did not wish to speak:

John LaMacchia, Legislative Associate in State Government Affairs for the Michigan Municipal League;

Casey Steffee, Governmental Affairs Analyst for the Michigan Association of Counties; and

Joseph Derocha, Vice-Chair of the Marquette County Board of Commissioners representing District 2.

The following individuals submitted testimony cards in support of the bill, but did not wish to speak:

Andy Such, Director of Regulatory and Environmental Policy for the Michigan Manufacturers Association, and

Representative Scott Dianda, representing the 110th House District.

Mr. Fitch submitted a testimony card in support of the bill, and was available for questions.

The Chair asked Harold R. Fitch, State Geologist and Chief of the Office of Oil, Gas, and Minerals in the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, to come forth to answer some questions from a member.

Representative LaFave moved to report Senate Bill 129 without amendment and with the recommendation that the bill then pass.

The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Representatives Howell, LaFave, Maturen, Bellino, Rendon, VanderWall, and Kivela, (7/9)

Nays: Representatives Chang, and Sowerby. (2/9)

The bill was referred to the order of Second Reading of Bills.

There being no other business before the committee; **Representative Bellino moved to adjourn the meeting.**

The motion prevailed, the time being 10:03 a.m.
The Chair declared the Committee adjourned.

Gary Howell, Chair
House Standing Committee on Natural Resources

Joy Brewer, Committee Clerk

Date approved by the committee