



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

Minutes of the House Standing Committee  
on  
Natural Resources

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Wednesday, May 16, 2018

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.

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The Clerk called the roll; members present were **Representatives Howell, LaFave, Maturen, Bellino, Rendon, VanderWall, Sowerby, Chang, and Cambensy. (9/9)**  
The Clerk announced that a quorum was present.

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The Chair laid before the committee Senate Bills 302 and 303 and House Bill 4475.

- SB 302 (Casperson)** Natural resources; land acquisition; caps on DNR land purchases; suspend if payments in lieu of taxes have not been made and revise DNR land management, acquisition, and disposal requirements.
- SB 303 (Booher)** Natural resources; funding; land exchange facilitation fund; authorize to be used for certain taxes and assessments on state land.
- HB 4475 (Howell)** Natural resources; land acquisition; cap on acreage in northern Michigan; remove, and approve strategic plan.

The Chair offered the (H-5) substitute for House Bill 4475.

**Representative VanderWall moved to adopt substitute (H-5) to House Bill 4475.**

**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, Sowerby, Chang and Cambensy, (9/9)**  
**Nays: None. (0/9)**

The substitute was adopted.

The Chair offered the (H-5) substitute for Senate Bill 302.

**Representative Rendon moved to adopt substitute (H-5) to Senate Bill 302.**

**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, Sowerby, Chang and Cambensy, (9/9)**

**Nays: None. (0/9)**

The substitute was adopted.

**Representative Sowerby offered and moved to adopt the following amendments to House Bill 4475 (H-5):**

1. Amend page 4, line 11, after "LINE" by inserting a comma and "OR SELL OR LEASE STATE LAND LOCATED NORTH OF THE MASON-ARENAC LINE,".

2. Amend page 4, line 14, after "ACQUISITION" by inserting a comma and "SALE, OR LEASE".

**The motion did not prevail by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:**

**Yeas: Representatives Sowerby, Chang, and Cambensy, (3/9)**

**Nays: Representatives Howell, LaFave, Maturen, Bellino, Rendon, and VanderWall. (6/9)**

The amendments were not adopted.

**Representative Sowerby offered and moved to adopt the following amendments to House Bill 4475 (H-5):**

1. Amend page 4, line 11, after "LINE" by inserting a comma and "OR HARVEST TIMBER ON OR LEASE OIL AND GAS RIGHTS TO STATE LAND LOCATED NORTH OF THE MASON-ARENAC LINE,".

2. Amend page 4, line 14, after "ACQUISITION" by inserting a comma and "TIMBER HARVEST, OR LEASE".

**The motion did not prevail by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:**

**Yeas: Representatives Sowerby and Chang, (2/9)**

**Nays: Representatives Howell, LaFave, Maturen, Bellino, Rendon, and VanderWall, (6/9)**

**Pass: Representative Cambensy. (1/9)**

The amendments were not adopted.

**Representative Sowerby offered and moved to adopt the following amendment to House Bill 4475 (H-5):**

1. Amend page 10, line 15, after "**DEPARTMENT**" by striking out the balance of the line through "**CONSTITUTE**" on line 17 and inserting "**CONSTITUTES**".

**The motion did not prevail by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:**

**Yeas: Representatives Sowerby and Cambensy, (2/9)**

**Nays: Representatives Howell, LaFave, Maturen, Bellino, Rendon, and VanderWall, (6/9)**

**Pass: Representative Chang. (1/9)**

The amendment was not adopted.

**Representative Sowerby offered and moved to adopt the following amendments to House Bill 4475 (H-5):**

1. Amend page 10, line 14, by striking out all of subsections **(11)** and **(12)** and renumbering the remaining subsections.

2. Amend page 15, line 15, after "subsection" by striking out "(17)" and inserting "**(15)**".

3. Amend page 16, line 3, after "**PART**" by striking out the balance of the line and inserting a period.

**The motion did not prevail by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:**

**Yeas: Representatives Sowerby, (1/9)**

**Nays: Representatives Howell, LaFave, Maturen, Bellino, Rendon, and VanderWall, (6/9)**

**Pass: Representative Chang and Cambensy. (2/9)**

The amendments were not adopted.

**Representative Sowerby offered and moved to adopt the following amendments to House Bill 4475 (H-5):**

1. Amend page 18, line 12, after "**LOCATED**" by inserting "**AND TO THE OWNERS OF ADJACENT LAND**".

2. Amend page 20, line 4, after "**(3)**" by inserting "**AND TO THE OWNERS OF ADJACENT LAND**".

3. Amend page 20, line 6, after "**(5)**" by striking out "**THE**" and inserting "**IF THE LAND IS MORE THAN 80 ACRES IN SIZE, THE**".

4. Amend page 20, line 11, after "**(6)**" by striking out "**SUBSECTIONS (1) TO (5)**" and inserting "**AT LEAST 30 DAYS BEFORE DISPOSING OF, ACQUIRING, LEASING, OR DEVELOPING LANDS THAT ARE 80 ACRES OR LESS IN SIZE, THE**".

**DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE NOTICE IN WRITING TO THE OWNERS OF ADJACENT LAND. THE NOTICE SHALL CONTAIN THE INFORMATION SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION (2)(A), (B), (C), AND (F).**

**(7) SUBSECTIONS (1) TO (6)" and renumbering the remaining subsection.**

**The motion did not prevail by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:**

**Yeas: Representatives Sowerby and Chang, (2/9)**

**Nays: Representatives Howell, LaFave, Maturen, Bellino, Rendon, and VanderWall, (6/9)**

**Pass: Representative Cambensy. (1/9)**

The amendments were not adopted.

**Representative Sowerby offered and moved to adopt the following amendment to House Bill 4475 (H-5):**

1. Amend page 10, line 22, after "**THE**" by striking out the balance of the subsection and inserting "**COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF EACH COUNTY AND THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EACH TOWNSHIP IN WHICH ALL OR A PORTION OF THE LAND PROPOSED TO BE ACQUIRED IS LOCATED.**".

**The motion did not prevail by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:**

**Yeas: Representatives Sowerby and Chang, (2/9)**

**Nays: Representatives Howell, LaFave, Maturen, Bellino, Rendon, and VanderWall, (6/9)**

**Pass: Representative Cambensy. (1/9)**

The amendment was not adopted.

**Representative LaFave moved to report House Bill 4475 with the recommendation that the substitute (H-5) be adopted and 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 Cambensy, (7/9)**

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

The bill and the substitute were referred to the order of Second Reading of Bills.

**Representative Sowerby offered and moved to adopt the following amendment to Senate Bill 302 (H-5):**

1. Amend page 3, line 16, after "**ORGANIZATION**" by inserting "**THAT IS EXEMPT FROM TAXATION UNDER SECTION 501(C) OF THE INTERNAL**

**REVENUE CODE, 26 USC 501,".**

**The motion did not prevail by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:**

**Yeas: Representatives Sowerby, (1/9)**

**Nays: Representatives Howell, LaFave, Maturen, Bellino, Rendon, and VanderWall, (6/9)**

**Pass: Representative Chang and Cambensy. (2/9)**

The amendment was not adopted.

**Representative Sowerby offered and moved to adopt the following amendments to Senate Bill 302 (H-5):**

1. Amend page 4, line 27, by striking out all of subsection (7) and renumbering the remaining subsections.
2. Amend page 5, line 19, after "SUBSECTION" by striking out "(10)" and inserting "(9)".
3. Amend page 6, line 12, after "SUBSECTION" by striking out "(11)" and inserting "(10)".
4. Amend page 6, line 22, after "SUBSECTION" by striking out "(10)" and inserting "(9)".
5. Amend page 6, line 22, after "SUBSECTIONS" by striking out the balance of the line through "(13)" on line 23 and inserting "(10) TO (12)".

**The motion did not prevail by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:**

**Yeas: Representatives Sowerby, (1/9)**

**Nays: Representatives Howell, LaFave, Maturen, Bellino, Rendon, and VanderWall. (6/9)**

**Pass: Representative Chang and Cambensy. (2/9)**

The amendments were not adopted.

**Representative Chang offered and moved to adopt the following amendments to Senate Bill 302 (H-5):**

1. Amend page 14, line 24, by striking out "subsection (2)," and inserting "SUBSECTIONS (2) AND (3),".
2. Amend page 15, following line 22, by inserting:  
**"(2) AT LEAST 30 DAYS BEFORE DESIGNATING LAND AS SURPLUS LAND, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DO ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:**  
**(A) PROVIDE NOTICE IN WRITING TO THE LEGISLATIVE BODIES OF THE LOCAL UNITS OF GOVERNMENT WHERE THE LAND IS LOCATED.**  
**(B) POST THE NOTICE ON ITS WEBSITE.**  
**(C) PUBLISH THE NOTICE IN A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION**

**IN THE COUNTY WHERE THE LAND IS LOCATED.**

**(3) THE NOTICE UNDER SUBSECTION (2) SHALL CONTAIN ALL OF THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:**

**(A) THE ACREAGE, THE LOCATION BY ADDRESS OR BY DISTANCE AND DIRECTION FROM SPECIFIED ROADS OR HIGHWAYS, AND THE LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF THE LAND.**

**(B) THE PROPOSED TIMING OF THE DESIGNATION.**

**(C) A WEBSITE ADDRESS WHERE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE PROPOSED DESIGNATION CAN BE FOUND.**

**(D) FOR PERSONS WHO WISH TO COMMENT ON OR ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PROPOSED DESIGNATION, THE NAME, TELEPHONE NUMBER, ELECTRONIC MAIL ADDRESS, AND MAILING ADDRESS OF A DEPARTMENT CONTACT PERSON.**

**(E) FOR THE WEBSITE NOTICE, AS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, THE EFFECT THE DESIGNATION IS EXPECTED TO HAVE ON ACHIEVING THE STRATEGIC PERFORMANCE GOALS SET FORTH IN THE STRATEGIC PLAN PURSUANT TO SECTION 503(7)." and renumbering the remaining subsection.**

**The motion did not prevail by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:**

**Yeas: Representatives Sowerby, Chang, and Cambensy, (3/9)**

**Nays: Representatives Howell, LaFave, Maturen, Bellino, Rendon, and VanderWall, (6/9)**

The amendments were not adopted.

**Representative Sowerby offered and moved to adopt the following amendments to Senate Bill 302 (H-5):**

1. Amend page 10, line 18, after "fund." by striking out the balance of the subsection.
2. Amend page 20, line 26, after "department." by striking out the balance of the section.

**The motion did not prevail by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:**

**Yeas: Representatives Sowerby and Chang, (2/9)**

**Nays: Representatives Howell, LaFave, Maturen, Bellino, Rendon, and VanderWall, (6/9)**

**Pass: Representative Cambensy. (1/9)**

The amendments were not adopted.

**Representative Sowerby offered and moved to adopt the following amendments to Senate Bill 302 (H-5):**

1. Amend page 21, line 22, by inserting:

"(iv) Plan and manage plantations in accordance with sustainable forestry principles and in a manner that complements the management of and promotes the restoration and conservation of natural forests." and renumbering the remaining subparagraphs.

2. Amend page 21, line 26, by striking out all of subparagraph (iv) and renumbering the remaining subparagraph.

3. Amend page 22, line 24, after "forests" by striking out the balance of the subparagraph and inserting a period.

4. Amend page 23, line 26, after "purpose." by striking out "SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (2)(G), THE" and inserting "The".

5. Amend page 24, line 24, by striking out the balance of the section.

**The motion did not prevail by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:**

**Yeas: Representatives Sowerby and Chang, (2/9)**

**Nays: Representatives Howell, LaFave, Maturen, Bellino, Rendon, and VanderWall, (6/9)**

**Pass: Representative Cambensy. (1/9)**

The amendments were not adopted.

**Representative Sowerby offered and moved to adopt the following amendment to Senate Bill 302 (H-5):**

1. Amend page 19, line 6, by striking out all of section **2137**.

**The motion did not prevail by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:**

**Yeas: Representatives Sowerby, (1/9)**

**Nays: Representatives Howell, LaFave, Maturen, Bellino, Rendon, and VanderWall, (6/9)**

**Pass: Representative Chang and Cambensy. (2/9)**

The amendment was not adopted.

**Representative LaFave moved to report Senate Bill 302 with the recommendation that the substitute (H-5) be adopted and 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 Cambensy, (7/9)**

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

The bill and the substitute were referred to the order of Second Reading of Bills.

On Wednesday March 7, 2018, the committee adopted a (H-1) substitute for Senate Bill 303.

**Representative Rendon moved to report Senate Bill 303 with the recommendation that the substitute (H-1) be adopted and 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, Chang and Cambensy, (8/9)**

**Nays: Representatives Sowerby. (1/9)**

The bill and the substitute were referred to the order of Second Reading of Bills.

The following individuals submitted testimony cards in support of the bills, but did not testify:

Rebecca Gean, Esq. Legal Affairs Manager for the Michigan Realtors Association, and  
Anna Mooney, Legislative Liaison in the Legislative and Legal Affairs Office in the  
Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

The following individuals submitted testimony cards in opposition to the bills, but did not testify:

Kara Cook, Policy Assistant, for the Michigan League of Conservation Voters;  
Charlotte Jameson, representing Michigan Environmental Council; and  
Jason Meekhof, Great Lakes Chapter Coordinator for Backcountry Hunters and Anglers,  
Michigan Chapter.

Drew YoungeDyke, Chair of the Board of Directors for Backcountry Hunters and Anglers, Michigan Chapter, submitted written testimony in opposition to the bill package, which is attached.

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The Chair laid before the committee House Bill 5890.

**HB 5890 (Pagel)** Environmental protection; air pollution; location notification requirement; modify.

The Chair recognized the bill sponsor, Representative Pagel.

**Representative LaFave moved to report House Bill 5890 without amendment and with the recommendation that the bill 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, Sowerby and Cambensy, (8/9)**

**Nays: None, (0/9)**

**Pass: Representatives Chang. (1/9)**

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



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

Doug Needham, President of the Michigan Aggregates Association;  
Sarah M. Howes, Legislative Liaison in the Executive Division of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality; and  
Christopher Ethridge, Field Operations Manager in the Air Quality Division in the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

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The Chair laid before the committee House Bills 5854 and 5855.

**HB 5854 (Howell)** Natural resources; wetlands; voluntary wetland restoration permit program; create.

**HB 5855 (Bellino)** Natural resources; wetlands; voluntary wetland restoration permit program; provide definitions for.

Tom Zimmicki, Agriculture Policy Director for Michigan Environmental Council, testified in opposition to the bills.

Sarah M. Howes, Legislative Liaison in the Executive Division of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Teresa Seidel, Division Chief of the Water Resources Division in the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, and Anna Mooney, Legislative Liaison in the Legislative and Legal Affairs Office in the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, testified on the bills, and answered questions from members.

Amy Trotter, Deputy Director for Michigan United Conservation Clubs, testified in support of the bills for herself and her organization.

Kyle Rorah, representing Ducks Unlimited, testified in support of the bills.

David Bowens, testified in support of the bills.

Chris Bunch, representing Six Rivers Land Conservancy, submitted a testimony card in support of the bills, but did not wish to testify.

Nicholas Occhipinti, Government Affairs Director Michigan League of Conservation Voters, submitted a testimony card in opposition to the bills, but did not wish to testify.

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The Chair laid before the committee a presentation on Recycling and Sustainability.

Brian O'Connell, Regional Director of State Government Relations for General Motors, briefed the members about General Motors' program and introduced Bridget Burnell, Manager of Sustainability Initiatives at General Motors, who did a PowerPoint presentation on sustainable materials management, which is attached. Questions followed.

Bill Whitley, President of the Compost Council of Michigan and owner of Spurt Industries, introduced Cliff Walkington, General Manager of Hammond Farms, and they both briefed the committee on Michigan's composting industries. A copy of their written testimony is attached to the minutes.

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The Chair laid before the committee the minutes of May 9, 2018 as printed.

**Representative Bellino moved to adopt the minutes of May 9, 2018, as printed. There being no objection the motion prevailed by unanimous consent of the members present; the minutes were adopted as printed.**

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There being no further business before the committee; **Representative Sowerby moved to adjourn the meeting.**

The motion prevailed, the time being 10:31 a.m.

The Chair declared the Committee adjourned.

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Gary Howell, Chair  
House Standing Committee on Natural Resources

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Joy Brewer, Committee Clerk

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Date approved by the committee