



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

Minutes of the House Standing Committee  
on  
Natural Resources

---

Wednesday, October 4, 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, Sowerby, Chang, and Greig. (9/9)**  
The Clerk announced that a quorum was present.

\_\_\_\_\_

The Chair laid before the committee the minutes of September 27, 2017 as printed.

**Representative VanderWall moved to adopt the minutes of September 27, 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 Senate Bill 402.

**SB 402 (Pavlov)**                      Environmental protection; sewage; maximum total grant for municipalities; increase.

The Chair offered the following amendment to Senate Bill 402:

1. Amend page 5, line 26, by striking out all of enacting section 1.

**Representative Greig moved to adopt the amendment to Senate Bill 402.**

**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, Maturen, Bellino, Rendon, VanderWall, Sowerby, and Greig, (7/9)**

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

The amendment was adopted.

The following individuals submitted a testimony card in support of the bill with amendment, but did not wish to speak:

Kelly Green, Infrastructure Coordinator in the Office of Administration in the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, and

Deena Bosworth, Michigan Association of Counties, representing the Michigan Association of County Drain Commissioners.

**Representative Bellino moved to report Senate Bill 402 with recommendation that the amendment 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, Maturen, Bellino, Rendon, VanderWall, Sowerby, and Greig, (7/9)**

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

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

---

The Chair laid before the committee House Bill 4957.

**HB 4957 (Howell)** Natural resources; hunting; mentored youth hunting license; allow individual to purchase additional licenses.

The Chair, the bill sponsor, explained the substitute (H-2).

**Representative Sowerby moved to adopt substitute (H-2) to House Bill 4957.**

**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, Maturen, Bellino, Rendon, VanderWall, Sowerby, and Grieg, (7/9)**

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

The substitute was adopted.

The Chair handed over the gavel to Representative Maturen, and explained the bill as amended. Questions followed.

The Chair took the gavel.

Amy Trotter, Deputy Director for Michigan United Conservation Clubs, testified in support of the bill. Questions followed.

Anna Mooney, Legislative Liaison in the Legislative and Legal Affairs Office in the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, testified in support of the bill. Questions followed.

Nick Vanerek and Hayden Vanerek testified in support of the bill. Questions followed.

---

The Chair laid before the committee House Resolution 154.

**HR 154 (Lower)** A resolution to encourage the Natural Resources Commission to add Sandhill cranes to the game species list and seek U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service approval to establish a Sandhill crane hunting season.

Representative James Lower, the resolution sponsor, explained the resolution. Questions followed.

Andrew Vermeesch, Associate Legislative Counsel for Michigan Farm Bureau, testified in support of the resolution.

Amy Trotter, Deputy Director for Michigan United Conservation Clubs, testified in support of the resolution.

Beatrice M. Friedlander, representing Attorneys for Animals and the State Bar of Michigan Law Section, testified in opposition to the resolution. Copy of her written testimony is attached.

Julie Baker, Director of the Songbird Protection Coalition, testified in opposition to the resolution, Copy of her written testimony is attached.

Rachelle Roake, Conservation Science Coordinator for the Michigan Audubon, testified in opposition to the bill. Copy of her written testimony is attached.

Sarah Gebert testified in opposition to the resolution.

Andrew Nowicki testified in opposition to the resolution.

Sara Cole testified in opposition to the resolution.

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

Matthew Pepper, President and Chief Executive Officer for the Michigan Humane Society;

Mark Nixon, representing the Songbird Protection Coalition;

Sean Hammond, Deputy Policy Director for the Michigan Environmental Council;

Lydia Sattler, representing the Humane Society of United States; and

William McMullin.

Miscellaneous emails were sent in opposition and support to the resolution.

---

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

The motion prevailed, the time being 10:31 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