



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

Minutes of the House Standing Committee
on
Natural Resources

Wednesday, October 11, 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 October 4, 2017 as printed.

Representative LaFave moved to adopt the minutes of October 4, 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 House Bill 4957.

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

Substitute (H-2) was previously adopted on October 4, 2017.

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

Anna Mooney, Legislative Liaison in the Legislative and Legal Affairs Office in the Michigan Department of Natural Resources;
Luke Houghton, Associate Director of State Services for Sportsmen Alliance; and
Mike Thorman, Legislative Associate for the Michigan Hunting Dog Federation.

Representative Sowerby moved to report House Bill 4957 with recommendation that the substitute (H-2) be adopted and 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, Chang, and Greig. (9/9)
Nays: None. (0/9)

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

The Chair laid before the committee Senate Bill 316.

SB 316 (Booher) Natural resources; other; certain regulations on the taking of frogs; repeal.

Senator Darwin Booher, the bill sponsor, explained the bill and introduced Hal Hutchinson, who 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, and Nicholas Popoff, Aquatic Species and Regulatory Affairs Manager in the Fisheries Division in the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, testified on the bill. Questions followed.

Beatrice M. Friedlander, representing Attorneys for Animals, testified in opposition to the bill. A copy of her written testimony is attached.

Mr. Popoff returned to answer a committee member's questions.

William McMullin submitted written testimony, but did not wish to speak.

The Chair laid before the committee House Bill 4787.

HB 4787 (VanderWall) Natural resources; fishing; ice shanty identification requirements and removal dates; modify.

Representative Curtis VanderWall, the bill sponsor, explained the bill and introduced Dennis Eade Executive Director for the Michigan Steelhead and Salmon Fishermen's Association, who 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, and Dean Molnar, Assistant Chief in the Law Enforcement Division of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, testified on 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.

Brian Merlos, Greater Detroit Area-Field Organizer for the National Audubon Society, testified on the resolution, and submitted written testimony, which is attached. Questions followed.

Rachelle Roake, Conservation Science Coordinator for the Michigan Audubon, testified in opposition to the resolution. Questions followed.

Julie Baker, Director of the Songbird Protection Coalition, testified in opposition to the resolution. Questions followed.

Representative LaFave moved to report House Resolution 154 with the recommendation that the resolution be adopted.

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, Bellino, Rendon, and VanderWall, (5/9)

Nays: Representatives Maturen, Sowerby, Chang, Greig. (4/9)

The resolution was referred to the full House.

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There being no other business before the committee; the Chair declared the Committee adjourned, the time being 9:56 a.m.

Gary Howell, Chair
House Standing Committee on Natural Resources

Joy Brewer, Committee Clerk

Date approved by the committee