

MINUTES

HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON Agriculture and Rural Development

DATE: March 8, 2016

Chairman Jenkins called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM (noon). Representatives Jenkins, Victory, Pagel, Canfield, Hoadley, and Singh were present.

Representative Canfield moved that the minutes of the March 1, 2016 meeting be approved; the motion was approved by voice vote without objection.

Subcommittee heard a presentation by Dr. James Averill, State Veterinarian and Director of the Animal Industry Division, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD). Dr. Averill provided the subcommittee with an update on Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) – disease detections and impacts in the United States and Canada in 2015, and the MDARD response plan if HPAI is detected in Michigan in 2016.

Dr. Averill indicated that all employees in the Animal Industry Division would all be mobilized in the event of HPAI outbreak. He also noted that there was a network of state veterinarians who could also be called on. He also noted that if there were a significant outbreak in a commercial poultry operation, he would call in the USDA Veterinary Service for assistance. He indicated that the goal was to depopulate infected populations within 24 hours.

Dr. Averill also discussed the status of Bovine TB in Michigan and department efforts to contain and eradicate the disease, including the Wildlife Risk Mitigation program. Dr. Averill indicated that Bovine TB was first identified in a free ranging deer in Michigan in 1994 and in livestock in 1998. Since 1998, there have been 63 Bovine TB outbreaks in Michigan cattle herds. He noted that with the exception of four counties in northeast Lower Michigan, the state is now considered free of Bovine TB. He also indicated that department testing activity spiked in 2015 as the result of Bovine TB found in Texas cattle. Dr. Averill noted that Animal Industry Division uses the MSU Diagnostic Center for Population and Animal Health for testing. He noted that the department's Geagley Lab also does testing in support of department activities under the Animal Industry Act. A copy of Dr. Averill's presentation is found in House Fiscal Agency's official subcommittee meeting file.

The Subcommittee then heard testimony from Representative Pagle on House Bill 5180, a bill to establish a Healthy Food Assistance Act. Members had been given copies of the bill as introduced, the HFA legislative analysis, and a letter of support from the AFD, an association of food and petroleum retailers. Representative Pagel was joined by Dave Hodgkins, representing the American Heart Association. Mr. Hodgkins also provided written testimony.

The Subcommittee then heard testimony in support of on House Bill 5180 from Oran B. Hesterman, President of the Fair Food Network, and Olivia Rebanal, Director of Loan Programs, Capital Impact Partners, a community development financial institution. They indicated that the Healthy Food Assistance Fund would leverage private non-profit/foundation capital contributions and would operate as a revolving loan fund. Ms. Rebanal indicated that they anticipated loaning approximately \$10.0 million per year with loan terms of from 3 to 5 years. They estimated that approximately twelve projects would be for less than \$250,000, with one to three projects greater than \$1.0 million. Mr. Hesterman and Ms. Rebanal provided written testimony as well as a

supporting handout.

The following persons indicated support for the bill but did not wish to speak:

Brittany Miller, a resident of the city of Lansing,
Rodney Parkkonen, American Heart Association
Eric Candela, The Greening of Detroit
Chris Broadbent, Michigan Farmers Market Association
Tina Reynolds, Michigan Environmental Council
Amanda Maria Edmonds, Growing Hope
Andrew Schepers, American Cancer Society
Dan Papineau, AFPD
Todd Tennis, Michigan State Alliance of YMCAs
Dr. Jacqueline Green, MD, University of Michigan
Diane Conners, Groundwork Center for Resilient Communities
Alice Betz, American College of Cardiology, Michigan Chapter
Dr. Peter Fattal, Michigan Cardio Vascular Institute
Janine Krolkowski, State Advocacy Volunteer, American Heart Association
Ted O'Dell, Campaign Manager, Michigan Healthy Food Access, American Heart Association

Mike Maisner, Healthy Kids, Healthy Michigan Coalition. Mr. Maisner also provided a letter of support.

Gary Dougherty, American Diabetes Association.

Dick Hewitt, Advocacy Chair of the Greater Michigan Community Leadership Board, American Diabetes Association also provided a letter of support.

Dr. Phillip Knight, Executive Director, Food Bank Council of Michigan, also provided a letter of support.

Copies of written testimony, handouts, and letters of support are all included in the House Fiscal Agency's official subcommittee meeting file.

Chairman Jenkins adjourned the meeting at 1:00 PM.