



MICHIGAN SNOWMOBILE ASSOCIATION

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November 28, 2018

The Honorable Gary Howell and members of the Natural Resources Committee,

My name is Bill Manson, and I am the Executive Director of the Michigan Snowmobile Association.

I came here today to inform all of you that the Michigan Snowmobile Association does not support HB 6124 as written. The bill as written penalizes snowmobilers financially to use the trails that they pay for. This bill would require snowmobilers to be triple taxed and not receive the benefits of the tax levied by this bill.

Snowmobilers pay for their snowmobile to be registered with the SOS for \$30. (Their money pays for DNR law enforcement and registration in the LEIN system.)

Snowmobilers pay a Trail Permit Fee of \$48.00 to run their snowmobiles off their own property. (\$46.53 is deposited into the Snowmobile Trail Improvement Fund (STIF) for maintenance and improvement of the trail system).

With this bill snowmobilers will be required to purchase a Recreation Passport to park their trucks and trailers in a parking lot adjacent to the trail. These lots were most likely developed by the snowmobile program and maintained in the winter by them.

Here is where we have an issue. The trails are maintained by the clubs and business associations using 100% of snowmobile funds. No general fund tax dollars are used. We have to pay now through STIF funds to plow the parking areas in the winter, provide porta johns where needed, and then have to pay again for the privilege to park our rigs!

We get the need to have all users pay, in fact we are a supporter of having all users pay a fair share. This bill is singling out the motorized users, and making them pay more than all of the other quiet sports.

Thank You for your time,

Bill Manson

Executive Director

Michigan Snowmobile Association