



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

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DIVIDE DNR FUNCTIONS

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House Bills 5725 and 5726
Sponsor: Rep. Tom Alley
Committee: Conservation, Recreation, &
Environment

Complete to 8-13-90

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILLS 5725 AND 5726 AS INTRODUCED 5-7-90

House Bill 5725 would amend current law to divide the current duties of the Natural Resources Commission by creating a Conservation and Recreation Commission and revising the duties of the Natural Resources Commission. The Natural Resources Commission currently has seven members, but each new commission would have five members. In addition, members would not have to be confirmed by the Senate as is currently the case with the Natural Resources Commission, and each member would serve a four-year term. Up to three members of each commission would be members of the same political party. Members of the Natural Resources Commission who were serving on the effective date of the bill would serve for the remainder of their appointed terms. The commissions would jointly appoint the director of the Department of Natural Resources, and the commissions would act by a majority vote of their members to appoint or remove the director. The director would appoint a deputy director to administer department programs governed by the Conservation and Recreation Commission.

Natural Resources Commission. The commission would administer all programs of the department related to air and water quality, waste management, environmental response and remediation, and all other programs related to pollution control and environmental protection.

Conservation and Recreation Commission. The commission would administer department programs related to:

- * hunting and fishing;
- * recreation;
- * forest management;
- * land and water management;
- * geological survey;
- * state parks and recreation areas;
- * wildlife; and
- * all other programs related to resource management.

Other Provisions. The governor would annually submit two separate budget proposals to the legislature: one to address funding of programs administered by the Conservation and Recreation Commission, and one to address funding of programs administered by the Natural Resources Commission. All actions taken by the Natural Resources Commission relating to programs under control of the Conservation and Recreation Commission after the effective date of the bill would remain in effect until superseded by actions of the Conservation and Recreation Commission. Both commissions could promulgate rules in order to implement their duties under the act.

The bill is tie-barred to House Bill 5726.

MCL 299.1 et al.

House Bills 5725 and 5726 (8-13-90)

House Bill 5726 would amend the Executive Organization Act to reflect the changes to the Natural Resources Commission that would become effective under House Bill 5725 and to reflect the creation of the Conservation and Recreation Commission.

MCL 16.351 et al.