

SFA

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Fiscal Agency

Lansing, Michigan 48909

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Senate Bill 739 (as enrolled)

PUBLIC ACT 118 of 1990

Sponsor: Senator Joseph S. Mack

Senate Committee: Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs

House Committee: Tourism, Fisheries, and Wildlife

Date Completed: 8-28-90

RECEIVED

OCT 24 1990

RATIONALE

Commercial fishing guides from Wisconsin reportedly have been bringing groups of people into the Western Upper Peninsula to fish in Michigan's inland lakes. Often, such lakes are stocked periodically by the owners of lakefront property, and the residents resent the out-of-state guides' practice of taking nonresidents on fishing expeditions on the lakes. Some people believe that nonresident commercial fishing guides should not be permitted to operate on Michigan's inland lakes.

ARGUMENTS

Mich. State Law Library

Supporting Argument

The stock of fish in Michigan's inland lakes should not be subject to taking by nonresident commercial fishing guides and their customers. Lakeshore residents and both Michigan and out-of-state tourists properly fishing with valid fishing licenses should not have to contend with competition for those resources with large groups of nonresidents.

CONTENT

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The bill would amend the Michigan Sports Fishing Law to prohibit a nonresident from acting as a commercial fishing guide on Michigan's inland waters, unless his or her state allowed Michigan residents to act as commercial fishing guides. In no instance, however, would a nonresident be permitted to act as a commercial fishing guide on the inland waters of Gogebic and Iron Counties. "Commercial fishing guide" would mean a person who provided assistance to another, in return for a fee or other valuable consideration, in "pursuing, capturing, catching, killing, taking, or attempting to take fish".

Proposed MCL 301.5c

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have no fiscal impact on State or local government.

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S.B. 739 (8-28-90)