



June 14, 2011

House Natural Resources, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation Committee
Lansing, Michigan Environmental Council

Re: HB 4298 – Easements over state land

Dear Representatives,

The Michigan Environmental Council supports granting reasonable access to people who purchased land with the expectation of access to those properties.

MEC does not support forcing the state to allow roads to be construction in areas where runoff could impact rivers and streams. In addition, we are concerned this bill will result in unplanned and illogical splitting of parcels without granting access forcing new roads where they are not necessary.

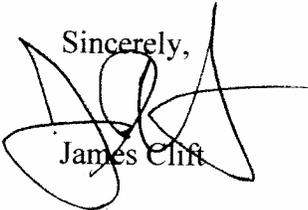
We urge the committee to consider the following amendments:

1. Amend page 2, line 24, after “FOR”, by deleting “A ROADWAY” and inserting, “ACCESS VIA EXISTING ROADWAYS TO ACCESS AN EXISITNG RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURE”.
2. Amend page 3, after line 23, by inserting:

“(3) THE DEPARTMENT MAY DENY A REQUEST PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION IF THE PARCEL WAS PURCHASED WITH FULL KNOWLEDGE OF THE LACK OF VEHICLE ACCESS TO THE PROPERTY.”.

Lastly, we are concerned with the possible conflict with the laws regarding the subdividing and development of land parcels. We urge the committee to revise the proposed legislation before moving the bill from committee.

Sincerely,


James Clift