



MEMBERS:
SENATOR BOOHER,
MAJORITY VICE CHAIR
SENATOR EMMONS
SENATOR HANSEN
SENATOR GLEASON,
MINORITY VICE CHAIR

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
THE SENATE**

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AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

SENATOR JOE HUNE, CHAIRMAN

MINUTES

A meeting of the Senate Agriculture Committee was held on Thursday, May 24, 2012, at 8:30 a.m. in the Farnum Building, Room 110. The meeting was called to order at 8:41 a.m.

Attendance was recorded as follows:

Present: Hune (C), Booher, Emmons, and Gleason

Excused: Hansen

Absent: None

Senator Hune announced the order of business:

- SR140 (Proos) – A resolution to memorialize the President of the United States and the United States Secretary of Agriculture to declare the Southwest Michigan fruit-growing region a disaster area in the wake of weather conditions that have devastated grape production.
- SR149 (Booher) – A resolution to memorialize the President of the United States and the United States Secretary of Agriculture to monitor closely the conditions of Northwest and North Central Michigan's fruit crop to determine if disaster assistance is needed.
- SB996 (Casperson) – Agriculture; animals; indemnity clauses for livestock and domestic animals killed by wildlife; provide for. HB 5206 (Rep. Rendon) – Agriculture; products; administrative rules related to cherry assessments; rescind. Amends 1965 PA 232 (MCL 290.651 - 290.674) by adding sec. 18b.
- SCR27 (Proos) – A concurrent resolution to encourage the Michigan Economic Development Corporation to work through the Pure Michigan campaign and with the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development to promote and brand Pure Michigan-grown foods

Senator Proos and Senator Booher gave verbal testimony explaining SR 140 and SR 149 and then answered questions from committee members.

The following people gave verbal testimony concerning SR 140 and SR 149:

- Tonia Ritter, Michigan Farm Bureau – Support

The following people submitted testimony cards but did not wish to speak on SR 140 and SR 149

- Dave Worthoms, Michigan Bankers Association – Support

Kendra Everett, of Senator Casperson's office, gave verbal testimony explaining SB 996 and the S-2 Substitute. Ms. Everett then answered questions from committee members.

The Chairman then allowed testimony to be offered via video conferencing from Senator Casperson's district.

The following people gave verbal testimony concerning SB 996:

- John Koski, Cattle Farmer – Support
- Nancy Warren, wolfwatcher.org – Oppose
- Duane Kopack, Cattle Farmer – Support
- Al Warren, Citizen – Oppose
- Dan Peroni, Former DNR Wildlife Division – Oppose
- Anders Tingstad, Judge – Support
- Don Lonsway, USDA Wildlife Services – Neutral

The following people submitted testimony cards but did not wish to speak on SB 996:

- Tonia Ritter, Michigan Milk Producers Association – Support
- Representative Matt Huuki, 110th District – Support
- Kent Wood, Michigan United Conservation Clubs – Oppose

Senator Proos gave verbal testimony explaining SCR 27 and then answered questions from committee members.

The following people gave verbal testimony concerning SCR 27:

- Elizabeth Parkinson, Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) – Support
- Kelly Wolgamott, MEDC – Support

The following people submitted testimony cards but did not wish to speak on SCR 27:

- Tonia Ritter, Michigan Farm Bureau – Support

Senator Hune recessed the committee at 9:58 a.m., reconvening at 11:19 a.m.

The Chairman allowed further testimony concerning SB 996 from the following people:

- Derek Bajema, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) – Neutral
- Dr. James Averill, MDARD – Neutral
- Tonia Ritter, Michigan Farm Bureau – Support

The Chairman then allowed the conclusion of testimony concerning SCR 27:

- Elizabeth Parkinson, MEDC – Support
- Kelly Wolgamott, MEDC – Support

Senator Emmons motioned to adopt the S-2 Substitute to SB 996.

Yeas: Hune, Booher, Emmons

Nays: None

The motion prevailed.

Senator Booher motioned to report with recommendation SB 996 S-2

Yeas: Hune, Booher, Emmons

Nays: None

The motion prevailed.

Senator Booher motioned to recommend immediate effect to SB 996 S-2.

Without objection, the motion prevailed with unanimous support

Senator Emmons motioned to report with recommendation SCR 27.

Yeas: Hune, Booher, Emmons

Nays: None

The motion prevailed.

Senator Booher motioned to adopt the S-1 Substitute to SR 140.

Yeas: Hune, Booher, Emmons

Nays: None

The motion prevailed.

Senator Emmons motioned to report with recommendation SR 140 S-1.

Yeas: Hune, Booher, Emmons

Nays: None

The motion prevailed.

Senator Booher motioned to report with recommendation SR 149.

Yeas: Hune, Booher, Emmons

Nays: None

The motion prevailed.

Senator Booher motioned that the committee adopt the minutes of April 26, 2012.

Without objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous voice.

Senator Emmons motioned to excuse absent members. Without objection, the motion prevailed.

Being no further business before the Committee, Senator Hune adjourned the meeting without objection at 12:11 p.m.

Date approved by the Committee: June 7, 2012

(An audio recording of this committee meeting is available upon request for a minimal fee.)