



MEMBERS:

SEN. PHIL PAVLOV, VICE CHAIRMAN
SEN. MIKE GREEN
SEN. MIKE KOWALL
SEN. ARLAN MEEKHOF
SEN. REBEKAH WARREN, MINORITY VICE CHAIR
SEN. MORRIS HOOD III

THE SENATE
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES,
ENVIRONMENT AND GREAT LAKES
SENATOR TOM CASPERSON
CHAIRMAN

705 FARNUM
P.O. BOX 30036
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909-7536
PHONE: (517) 373-7840
FAX: (517) 373-3932

Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Environment and Great Lakes

A meeting of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Environment and Great Lakes was held Thursday, June 23, 2011 at 8:00 a.m. in Room 210 of the Farnum Building.

The meeting was called to order at 8:10 a.m.

Members present: Senators Casperson, Pavlov, Green, Kowall, Meekhof, Warren and Hood
Members absent: none

Senator Casperson called the meeting to order and led committee and audience members in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Senator Pavlov moved to adopt the minutes from June 9th, 2011 with unanimous consent. Without objection, the minutes were adopted.

Senator Meekhof moved to adopt the minutes from June 16th, 2011 joint meeting with unanimous consent. Without objection, the minutes were adopted.

Senator Casperson placed before the committee House Bill 4577 (Rep. Johnson) and House Bill 4579 (Rep. Foster). Representatives Johnson and Foster testified in explanation of their bills. The Representatives then answered questions from committee members. Representative Foster and his staff member testified in explanation of the S-1 substitute for House Bill 4579.

The following people submitted cards but did not wish to testify on House Bills 4577 and 4579:

- Meredith Johnson, representing Heart of the Lakes Center for Land Conservation Policy—Neutral
- David Bertram, representing Michigan Townships Association—Support

The following people testified on House Bills 4577 and 4579, and answered questions from committee members:

- Moreno Taylor II, representing Michigan Association of Counties—Support

Senator Kowall moved that House Bill 4577 be reported out of committee with the recommendation that the bill then pass. The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Senators Casperson, Pavlov, Kowall, Meekhof, Warren, Hood (6/7)

Nays: none (0)

Pass: none (0)

Excused: Senator Green (1)

Without objection the committee further recommended that the bill be given immediate effect by unanimous consent.

Senator Kowall moved to adopt the substitute (S-1) to House Bill 4579. By an affirmative vote of the majority of members serving, the substitute was adopted. Voting as follows:

Yeas: Senators Casperson, Pavlov, Kowall, Meekhof, Warren, Hood (6/7)

Nays: none (0)

Pass: none (0)

Excused: Senator Green (1)

Senator Kowall moved that House Bill 4579 (S-1) be reported out of committee with the recommendation that the bill then pass. The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Senators Casperson, Pavlov, Kowall, Meekhof, Warren, Hood (6/7)

Nays: none (0)

Pass: none (0)

Excused: Senator Green (1)

Without objection the committee further recommended that the bill be given immediate effect by unanimous consent.

Senator Green entered the committee room at 8:24 a.m.

Senator Casperson placed before the committee Senate Resolution 59 (Sen. Casperson). Senator Casperson explained his resolution to the committee members.

The following people submitted cards but did not wish to testify on Senate Resolution 59:

- Mike Telliga, representing Midland Chamber of Commerce—Support
- James Clift, representing Michigan Environmental Council—Opposed
- Alexis Blizman, representing Michigan Network for Children's Environmental Health—Opposed (Submitted letter on file with clerk)

Senator Warren explained her substitutes S-2 and S-3 for the resolution. The committee then discussed the resolution and potential substitutes.

Senator Warren moved to adopt the S-2 substitute to Senate Resolution 59. By a vote of a majority of members serving, the substitute failed. Voting as follows:

Yeas: Senators Warren and Hood (2/7)

Nays: Senators Casperson, Pavlov, Green, Kowall, Meekhof (5)

Pass: none (0)

Excused: none (0)

Senator Warren moved to adopt the S-3 substitute to Senate Resolution 59. By a vote of a majority of members serving, the substitute failed. Voting as follows:

Yeas: Senators Warren and Hood (2/7)

Nays: Senators Casperson, Pavlov, Green, Kowall, Meekhof (5)

Pass: none (0)

Excused: none (0)

Senator Pavlov moved that Senate Resolution 59 be reported out of committee with the recommendation that the resolution be adopted. The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

Yeas: Senators Casperson, Pavlov, Kowall, Green and Meekhof (5/7)

Nays: Senators Warren and Hood (2)

Pass: none (0)

Absent: none (0)

Senator Casperson placed before the committee Senate Bill 470 (Sen. Casperson) and House Bill 4746. Senator Casperson invited Representative Huuki to testify in explanation of the bills and answered questions from committee members. Representative Huuki also submitted documents for committee members to consider (documents on file with the clerk).

The following people submitted cards but did not wish to testify on Senate Bill 470 and House Bill 4746:

- Randy Gross, representing Michigan Department of Environmental Quality—Support
- Susan Harley, representing Clean Water Action—Opposed
- Fred Lanham, representing Kasson Township—Opposed
- Alexis Blizman, representing Ecology Center—Opposed
- A representative from National Park Conservation Association—Opposed (Organization submitted written testimony on file with the clerk)
- Dan DeGraff, representing Michigan Concrete Association—Support
- Rebecca Park, representing Michigan Farm Bureau—Neutral
- Andrea Brown, representing Michigan Association of Planning—Opposed
- Jonathan Byrd, representing Michigan Laborers' District Council—Opposed
- Steven Pence, representing Pence & Numinen, PC—Opposed (Submitted documents on file with clerk)
- Jason Geer, representing Michigan Chamber of Commerce—Support

The following people testified on Senate Bill 470 and House Bill 4746, and answered questions from committee members:

- Ron Richards, representing Portage Township—Opposed

- David Bertram, representing Michigan Townships Association—Opposed
- Vic Betterly, resident of Houghton, plaintiff in lawsuit against VVQ Land Holdings — Opposed
- Kevin Grzelak, resident of Ada, plaintiff in lawsuit against VVQ Land Holdings—Opposed
- Carol Little, resident of Houghton—Opposed
- Sally Santeford, resident of Houghton—Opposed
- Kathy Feys, representing Kasson Township—Opposed (Also submitted written testimony)
- Gerald Fisher, representing Kasson Township and Michigan Municipal League—Opposed (Also submitted written testimony)
- Richard Norton, representing Michigan Association of Planning—Opposed
- Matthew Heron, representing Thomas Moyle Jr., Inc.—Support

Senator Casperson announced that those not getting a chance to testify at the day's meeting due to time running out would be given the opportunity to do so at a future committee meeting to be held on the bills.

Senator Casperson adjourned the committee at 10:08 a.m.

6/28/11

Date Approved by Committee

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