

**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**

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### **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, May 31, 2012 at 8:00 a.m. in Room 210 of the Farnum Building.

The meeting was called to order at 8:01 a.m.

Members present: Senators Casperson, Pavlov, Green, Kowall, Meekhof, Warren  
Members excused: Senator Hood

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

Senator Warren entered the committee room at 8:02 a.m.

Senator Green moved to adopt the minutes from May 17, 2012 with unanimous consent. Without objection, the minutes were adopted.

Senator Casperson placed before the committee Senate Bill 1130 (Sen. Meekhof). Senator Meekhof explained the bills to committee members and answered questions. Senator Meekhof also explained his amendment to committee members.

Senator Pavlov entered the committee room at 8:07 a.m.

The following people testified on Senate Bill 1130 and answered questions from committee members:

- Drew YoungeDyke, representing the Michigan League of Conservation Voters—Oppose (also submitted written testimony on file with the clerk)
- James Clift, representing the Michigan Environmental Council—Oppose (also submitted written testimony on file with the clerk)

The following people submitted cards, but did not testify, on Senate Bill 1130:

- Drew YoungeDyke, for Nick Occhipinti, representing the West Michigan Environmental Action Council—Oppose (also submitted written testimony on file with the clerk)
- Greg Clark, representing American Electric Power—Support
- Maggie Cox, representing the Department of Environmental Quality—Neutral
- Tom Frazier, representing the Michigan Townships Association—Oppose as introduced
- Brad Johnson, representing the Ingham Conservation District—Oppose
- Becky Huttenga, representing the Ottawa Conservation District—Oppose
- Kelly Goward, representing the Allegan Conservation District—Oppose (also submitted written testimony on file with the clerk)

Senator Casperson announced that the committee would return to Senate Bill 1130 later in the committee meeting.

Senator Casperson placed before the committee Senate Bill 1021 & 1022 (Sens. Casperson & Booher). Senator Casperson announced that there were substitutes for consideration before the committee. Kendra Everett, Legislative Director for Senator Casperson, explained the bills and substitutes to committee members.

The following people testified on Senate Bills 1021 & 1022 and answered questions from committee members:

- Tom Frazier, representing the Michigan Townships Association—Support

Senator Pavlov moved that the S-1 substitute be adopted to Senate Bill 1021. The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of the majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

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

Nays: Senator Warren (1)

Pass: none (0)

Absent: Senator Hood (1)

Senator Pavlov moved that Senate Bill 1021 (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 (4/7)

Nays: Senator Warren (1)

Pass: Senator Green (1)

Absent: Senator Hood (1)

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

Senator Meekhof moved that the S-1 substitute be adopted to Senate Bill 1022. The motion prevailed by an affirmative vote of the majority of the members appointed to and serving on the committee, voting as follows:

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

Nays: Senator Warren (1)

Pass: none (0)

Absent: Senator Hood (1)

Senator Pavlov moved that Senate Bill 1022 (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 (4/7)

Nays: Senator Warren (1)

Pass: Senator Green (1)

Absent: Senator Hood (1)

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

Senator Casperson placed before the committee Senate Bill 1031 (Sen. Casperson). Senator Casperson explained the bill to committee members.

The following people submitted cards, but did not wish to testify, on Senate Bill 1031:

- MoReno Taylor II, representing the Michigan Association of Counties—Support
- Kent Wood, representing the Michigan United Conservation Clubs—Support

Senator Meekhof moved that Senate Bill 1031 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, Green, Kowall, Meekhof (5/7)

Nays: Senator Warren (1)

Pass: none (0)

Absent: Senator Hood (1)

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

Senator Casperson placed before the committee House Bill 4913 (Rep. Foster). Senator Casperson recapped the bill for committee members.

The following people submitted cards, but did not wish to testify, on House Bill 4913:

- Kent Wood, representing the Michigan United Conservation Clubs—Support

Senator Meekhof moved that House Bill 4913 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, Green, Kowall, Meekhof, Warren (6/7)

Nays: none (0)

Pass: none (0)

Absent: Senator Hood (1)

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

Senator Casperson returned the committee to Senate Bill 1130 (Sen. Meekhof).

The following people testified on Senate Bill 1130 and answered questions from committee members:

- Lee Schwartz, representing the Michigan Association of Home Builders; Brian Westrin, representing the Michigan Association of Realtors; and Dan Coffey, representing the Michigan Association of Realtors—Support (also submitted written testimony and a video on file with the clerk)

Senator Meekhof moved to adopt Amendment #1 to Senate Bill 1130. 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, Green, Kowall, Meekhof, Warren (6/7)

Nays: none (0)

Pass: none (0)

Absent: Senator Hood (1)

Senator Meekhof moved that Senate Bill 1130 be reported out of committee as amended as a clean substitute 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, Green, Kowall, Meekhof (5/7)

Nays: Senator Warren (1)

Pass: none (0)

Absent: Senator Hood (1)

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

Senator Warren moved to excuse absent members. Without objection, absent members were excused.

Senator Pavlov left the committee room at 9:18 a.m.

Senator Casperson placed before the committee Senate Bills 1057-1062 (Sens. Booher, Meekhof, Moolenaar, & Green) and House Bills 4969, 4970, & 4302 (Reps. Foster, Huuki, & McBroom). Senator Booher explained the bills to committee members and answered questions.

The following people testified on the package of bills and answered questions from committee members:

- Kenneth F. Ford, representing Lake States Forestry Consultants—Support (package)
- Rick Lucas, representing Conservation Districts—Support (package)
- Derek Bajema and Jim Johnson, representing the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development—Support (package)
- Henry Schienebeck, representing the Great Lakes Timber Professionals Association—Support (package) (also submitted written testimony on file with the clerk)
- Warren Suchousky, representing the Michigan Association of Timbermen—Support (package)
- Kelly Goward, representing the Allegan Conservation District—Support (SB 1057)

Senator Meekhof left the committee room at 9:54 a.m.

The following people submitted written testimony, but did not testify, on the package of bills:

- Howard Haulotte, Delta Conservation District—Support (SB 1057, 1058, 1059, 1060 & 1061)
- Tony Demboski, Upper Peninsula Sportsmen's Alliance—Support (SB 1057, 1058, 1059, 1060 & 1061)
- Gregg Stoll, Michigan Wildlife Services—Support (SB 1057, 1058, 1059, 1060 & 1061)
- Gerald Grossman, Grossman Forestry Company—Support (SB 1060), Oppose (SB 1057, 1059 & 1062)
- Dennis Renken, Renken Consulting—Oppose (package)
- Dean Francis, Upper Michigan Land Management—Oppose (package)

Senators Green and Kowall left the committee room at 9:55 a.m.

Senator Warren left the committee room at 9:56 a.m.

Senator Casperson announced that, due to the time, those wishing to speak who were unable to would be able to at a future meeting and that cards submitted not wishing to speak would also be read into the record at a future meeting.

Senator Casperson adjourned the committee at 9:58 a.m.

Date Approved by Committee: June 7, 2012

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