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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
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Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Environment and Great Lakes
Minutes

A meeting of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Environment and Great Lakes was held Thursday, April 18, 2013 at 8:30 a.m. in Room 210 of the Farnum Building.

The meeting was called to order at 8:34 a.m.

Members present: Senators Casperson, Pavlov, Green, Kowall, Warren, Hood

Members excused: Senator Meekhof

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 April 11, 2013 with unanimous consent. Without objection, the minutes were adopted.

Senator Casperson announced the order of business for the day:

- HB 4243 (Rep. McBroom) Property tax; other; qualified forest property recapture tax; revise.
- HB 4244 (Rep. Rendon) Property tax; classification; qualified forest property; provide property tax exemption.
- HB 4069 (Rep. Foster) Natural resources; forests; classification of forestland as commercial forest; clarify requirements for inclusion and withdrawal of forestland.
- SB 20 (Sen. Hopgood) Environmental protection; permits; hazardous waste permit eligibility; restrict based on certain criminal convictions.

Senator Casperson placed before the committee House Bills 4243, 4244, & 4069 (Reps. McBroom, Rendon, & Foster). Representative Rendon explained the House Bill 4244 to committee members and answered questions. Paul Burns, staff for Representative McBroom, explained House Bill 4243 to committee members and answered questions. Steve Daunt, staff for the House Republican Policy Office, explained House Bill 4069 to committee members and answered questions.

The following people testified on House Bills 4243, 4244, & 4069 and answered questions from committee members:

- Rebecca Park, Michigan Farm Bureau—Support

The following people submitted cards, but did not testify, on House Bills 4243, 4244, & 4069:

- Trevor VanDyke, Department of Natural Resources—Support (HB 4069)
- Gary Melow, Michigan Biomass—Support
- Judy Augenstine, Michigan Association of Timbermen—Support
- Judy Augenstine, Great Lakes Timber Professionals—Support
- Scott Robbins, Michigan Forest Products Council—Support

Senator Pavlov moved that House Bill 4243 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, Warren, Hood (6/7)

Nays: none (0)

Pass: none (0)

Excused: Senator Meekhof (1)

Senator Casperson moved to recommend immediate effect for House Bill 4243. Without objection the committee further recommended that the bill be given immediate effect by unanimous consent.

Senator Pavlov moved that House Bill 4244 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, Warren, Hood (6/7)

Nays: none (0)

Pass: none (0)

Excused: Senator Meekhof (1)

Senator Green moved to recommend immediate effect for House Bill 4244. Without objection the committee further recommended that the bill be given immediate effect by unanimous consent.

Senator Green moved that House Bill 4069 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, Warren, Hood (6/7)

Nays: none (0)

Pass: none (0)

Excused: Senator Meekhof (1)

Senator Casperson moved to recommend immediate effect for House Bill 4069. Without objection the committee further recommended that the bill be given immediate effect by unanimous consent.

Senator Casperson placed before the committee Senate Bill 20 (Sen. Hopgood). Senator Hopgood explained the bill to committee members and answered questions.

The following people submitted cards, but did not testify, on Senate Bill 20:

- James Clift, Michigan Environmental Council—Support

Senator Pavlov moved that Senate Bill 20 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, Warren, Hood (6/7)

Nays: none (0)

Pass: none (0)

Excused: Senator Meekhof (1)

Senator Warren moved to recommend immediate effect for Senate Bill 20. Without objection the committee further recommended that the bill be given immediate effect by unanimous consent.

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

Senator Casperson adjourned the committee without objection at 8:47 a.m.

Date Approved by Committee: April 25, 2013

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