



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

Washington Square Building, Suite 1025
Lansing, Michigan 48909
Phone 517/373-6466

ELIMINATE NOTARY SEAL ON GAME REPORTS

House Bill 4544 as introduced
First Analysis (6-2-87)

RECEIVED

JUN 12 1987

Sponsor: Rep. Susan Munsell

Committee: Economic Development & Energy, State Law Library

THE APPARENT PROBLEM:

The 20,000 small businesses in Michigan (businesses employing less than 11 employees) feel that they are overburdened with expenses incurred by the red tape involved in deeds and contracts. An example of this is the requirement by Public Act 308 of 1929 that a person who buys furs, plumage, skins, or hides submit a notarized report "stating the number and kinds of furs, hides, or pelts of each fur-bearing animal, and the plumage, skins, or hides . . . of protected game birds and game animals in his or her possession on the last day of the open season. " Similarly, each person licensed to do business is required to submit a notarized report on or before the tenth day of every month, stating "the number and kinds of raw furs, hides, or pelts of fur-bearing animals, or the plumage, skins, or hides, or parts thereof, of protected game birds and game animals purchased or sold during the preceding month ".

THE CONTENT OF THE BILL:

The bill would amend Public Act 308 of 1929 to eliminate the notarization requirement from the reports which buyers of furs, pelts skins, and plumage of protected game birds and game animals are required to submit at the end of the open season for those furs, pelts, skins or plumage in their possession, and also from the reports which must be submitted on or before the tenth day of each month, itemizing similar items purchased or sold during the preceding month.

The bill would also delete references to the "director of conservation, " and replace them with "director of the Department of Natural Resources. "

MCL 317.4 and 317.5

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

The House Fiscal Agency reports that the bill has no fiscal implications for the state. (6-2-87)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The bill is part of a nine-bill package recommended by the Governor's Conference on Small Business.

ARGUMENTS:

For:

The requirement that reports be notarized is archaic — the same purpose would be served if dealers were required to show their driver's licenses instead. The elimination of the notarization requirement is a step in the right direction to aid small business owners.

POSITIONS:

The Department of Commerce supports the bill. (5-29-87)

The Department of Natural Resources supports the bill. (6-2-87)

The Michigan Chapter of the National Federation of Independent Businesses supports the bill. (5-29-87)

H.B. 4544 (6-2-87)