SFA BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Bill 57 (as enrolled) (Public Act 249 of 1988)
Sponsor: Senator Joseph S. Mack
Senate Committee· Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs
House Committee· Conservation and Environment

Date Completed: 7-20-88

RATIONALE

Reportedly, some of Michigan's rivers and streams that are popular among sports fishers are being depleted of their stock. Some people feel that restrictions on trout fishing in certain waterways should be more stringent than those under current law so that the waterways can continue to be a recreational resource to the fishing population.

CONTENT

Senate Bill 57 would amend the Michigan Sportsmen Fishing Law to specify restrictions on the taking of trout during the open season for trout in the portion of Duck Creek that is within Watersmeet Township in Gogebic County Under the bill the following restrictions would apply:

● Only artificial lures could be used to take trout.
● Trout would have to be at least 10 inches in length.
● A maximum of five trout could be taken per day.

The bill would take effect on January 1, 1989

Proposed MCL 303 1b

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have no fiscal impact on State or local government

ARGUMENTS

Supporting Argument

People who fish n Gogebic County are interested in ensuring that trout will be plentiful in Duck Creek. The bill's tougher restrictions on the taking of trout in the section of that stream that flows through Watersmeet Township would keep the population at a high enough level to sustain fishing activity

Opposing Argument

The Natural Resources Commission can implement the proposed limitation by rule. Such specific measures should not be pursued through legislation.
Response: The administrative rules process would unnecessarily delay the implementation. Legislation would assure that the restrictions were implemented in a more timely manner.

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