

SENATE BILL No. 778

September 27, 2005, Introduced by Senators BIRKHOLZ, BRATER, JACOBS, HARDIMAN and ALLEN and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs.

A bill to amend 1994 PA 451, entitled
"Natural resources and environmental protection act,"
by amending section 2521 (MCL 324.2521), as added by 1999 PA 195.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 2521. (1) The department of environmental quality, in
2 conjunction with the department of natural resources, shall
3 biennially prepare a report that assesses the status of and trends
4 related to the overall state of the natural environment in
5 Michigan. The report shall be based upon environmental indicators
6 identified by the departments of environmental quality and natural
7 resources and upon data obtained through sound scientific
8 methodologies and processes. The report shall be submitted to the
9 governor, to the standing committees of the legislature with

1 jurisdiction over issues primarily related to natural resources and
2 the environment, and to the senate and house appropriations
3 subcommittees on environmental quality and natural resources. The
4 first report shall be submitted not later than October 1, 2001, and
5 subsequent reports shall be submitted not later than October 1
6 every other year. The reports shall also be made available to the
7 public electronically and, upon request, in paper format.

8 (2) The departments of environmental quality and natural
9 resources shall monitor efforts undergoing in other states and
10 nationally to establish uniformity among environmental indicators
11 that might be included within the report.

12 (3) All state agencies shall cooperate with the departments of
13 environmental quality and natural resources in carrying out their
14 responsibilities under this section.

15 (4) As used in this section, "environmental indicator" means a
16 measure of the state of the natural environment that can be derived
17 from empirical data. The department shall use the most recent data
18 available. If relevant data is not available, the department shall
19 include in the report recommendations for gathering data in the
20 future.

21 ~~(5) This section is repealed effective December 31, 2005.~~