

Minutes of the State Agricultural and Bioeconomy Committee

Thursday, Sep 24, 2009

9:00 a.m.

Room 110 Farnum Building

- Chairman Van Woerkom called the Committee to order at 9:07 a.m.
- Members Present: Van Woerkom, Gilbert, Birkholz and Gleason.
- Senator Gilbert moved to approve the minutes from September, 10th, 2009. His motion was supported by Senator Birkholz and approved unanimously.
- Chairman Van Woerkom described HB 5127 and the changes made in the (S-2) version.
- Senator Birkholz moved to adopt HB 5127 (S-2). Her motion was supported by Senator Gilbert and was approved by the following vote:
Yeas: Van Woerkom, Gilbert, Birkholz and Gleason
Neas: none
Pass: none
- Chairman Van Woerkom invited Dennis DeYoung from the Michigan Pork Producers Association to testify.
- Mr. DeYoung testified in support of HB 5127 (S-2).
- Kathleen Hawkins from the Michigan Cattleman Association testified in opposition to HB 5127 (S-2) due to the timeline given to the veil industry.
- Stephen Herbruck from Herbruck's Poultry Ranch Inc testified in support of HB 5127 (S-2) because the legislation gives his industry the ability to research what to do and then comply.
- Terry Harrell from the Indiana Veal Association testified in opposition to HB 5127 (S-2) because of the timeframe to comply given to the veal industry.
- David Grant from Strauss Veal Farm in Indiana also testified in opposition to HB 5127 (S-2) because of the timeframe given to the veal industry.
- Randie Kopkey from Indiana also testified in opposition to HB 5127 (S-2) because of the timeframe given to the veal industry.
- Steve Anderson opposed HB 5127 (S-2) and testified that his company has 3,000 head of veal in Michigan and the legislation's timeline is unreasonable to veal farmers.
- Sam Hines from Michigan Pork Producers Association supported HB 5127 (S-2) but did not wish to speak.
- Tonia Ritter from Michigan Farm Bureau supported HB 5127 (S-2) but did not wish to speak.
- Jill Fritz from The Humane Society of the United States supported HB 5127 (S-2) but did not wish to speak.
- Dr. Steve Halstead and Nancy Nyquist from Michigan Department of Agriculture supported HB 5127 (S-2) but did not wish to speak.
- Mitch Irwin from Michigan AgraBusiness Association supported HB 5127 (S-2) but did not wish to speak.

- George House from Michigan Allied Poultry Industries supported HB 5127 (S-2) but did not wish to speak.
- Sen. Birkholz commented that she has concerns with the veal industries concerns.
- Senator Birkholz moved to report HB 5127 (S-2) with recommendation. Her motion was supported by Senator Gilbert and was approved by the following vote:
Yeas: Van Woerkom, Gilbert, Birkholz and Gleason
Neas: none
Pass: none
- Sen. Gilbert motioned to excuse Sen. Whitmer. His motion was supported by Sen. Birkholz.
- With no more business before the committee Senator Gilbert motioned to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 a.m.