

Minutes of the Standing Committee  
on  
**Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs**

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Wednesday, March 25, 2009

1:00 p.m.

Room 110, Farnum Building

The Senate Standing Committee on Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs was called to order by Senator Patricia Birkholz, Chair.

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Dr. Denise Mitten, Associate Professor in the Recreation, Leisure Services & Wellness Department at Ferris University, led the members of the committee in the recital of the *Pledge of Allegiance to the flag*.

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The Clerk called the roll; **members present were Senators Birkholz, Van Woerkom, Patterson, Basham and Gleason. (5/5)**

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The Chair recognized Dr. Mitten and her fourteen students from Ferris University who were visiting the committee today.

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The Chair laid before the committee the minutes of March 18, 2009.

**Senator Patterson moved to adopt the minutes of March 18, 2009 as printed.**

**Senator Basham supported the motion.**

**There being no objection the motion prevailed by unanimous consent; the minutes were adopted as printed.**

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The Chair laid before the committee Senate Bill 34.

**Senate Bill No. 34, entitled**

A bill to amend 1994 PA 451, entitled "Natural resources and environmental protection act," by amending sections 78101 and 78110 (MCL 324.78101 and 324.78110), section 78101 as amended by 2006 PA 466 and section 78110 as amended by 2004 PA 587.

Teri Ambs, Legislative Assistant to Senator Richardville, the bill sponsor, explained the bill to the committee members.

Van Snider, representing the Michigan Boating Industries Association, testified in support of the legislation.

The following individuals submitted a testimony card in support of the bill, but did not wish to testify:

Dan Eichinger, Legislative Liaison to the Department of Natural Resources, and  
Erik Hingst, representing the Deputy Sheriff Association of Michigan.

**Senator Van Woerkom moved to report Senate Bill 34 with the recommendation that the bill pass.**

**Senator Basham supported the motion.**

**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 Birkholz, Van Woerkom, Patterson, Basham and Gleason, (5/5)**

**Nays: None. (0)**

**Senator Van Woerkom moved that the committee further recommend that the bill be given immediate effect.**

**Senator Patterson supported the motion.**

**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 Birkholz, Van Woerkom, Patterson, Basham and Gleason, (5/5)**

**Nays: None. (0)**

The bill was referred to the Committee of the Whole.

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There being no other business before the committee; **Senator Van Woerkom moved to adjourn the meeting.**

**Senator Patterson supported the motion.**

The motion prevailed; the time being 1:17 p.m.

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Patricia L. Birkholz, Chair

Senate Standing Committee on Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs

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Joy A. E. Brewer, Committee Clerk

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Date approved by the committee