

The Senate



SENATOR  
PATRICIA L. BIRKHOLOZ  
Chair

**Committee on Natural Resources  
and Environmental Affairs**

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

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Wednesday, April 28, 2010

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.

William Rustem, President and Chief Executive Officer of Public Sector Consultants, led the members of the committee in the recital of the *Pledge of Allegiance to the flag*.

The Clerk called the roll; **members present were Senators Birkholz, Van Woerkom, Basham and Gleason. (4/5)**  
**Member absent and excused was Senator Patterson. (1/5)**

The Chair laid before the committee the minutes of April 21, 2010 as printed.

**Senator Van Woerkom moved to adopt the minutes of April 21, 2010 as printed.**

**Senator Gleason supported the motion.**

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

The Chair laid before the committee Senate Bill 1177.

**Senate Bill No. 1177, entitled**

A bill to amend 1994 PA 451, entitled "Natural resources and environmental protection act," (MCL 324.101 to 324.90106) by adding part 317.

Senator Kahn, the bill sponsor, explained the bill to the committee members. Following his introduction of the bill, Senator Kahn addressed a committee member's questions.

Matt Smego and Scott Piggott, representing Michigan Farm Bureau, testified in support of the legislation. Mr. Smego and Mr. Piggott responded to comments from committee members.

Peter Ostlund, Supervisor in the Water Bureau Division of the Department of Natural Resources and Environment, submitted a testimony card in opposition to the bill.

**Senator Van Woerkom moved to report Senate Bill 1177 with the recommendation that the bill pass.**

**Senator Gleason 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, Basham and Gleason, (4/5)**

**Nays: None. (0)**

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

**Senator Gleason 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 and Gleason, (3/5)**

**Nays: None, (0)**

**Pass: Senator Basham. (1/5)**

The bill was referred to the Committee of the Whole.

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The Chair laid before the committee a presentation on "Michigan's Environmental Remediation Program."

Bill Rustem, President and Chief Executive Officer of Public Sector Consultants, provided testimony on the sustainable development in Michigan by using contaminated sites in our urban areas. Following his remarks, Mr. Rustem answered questions from committee members. A copy of his written testimony is attached to the minutes.

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**Senator Van Woerkom moved to excuse Senator Patterson from today's committee meeting.**

**Senator Basham supported the motion.**

**There being no objection the motion prevailed by unanimous consent of the members present; Senator Patterson was excused.**

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

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**Senator Van Woerkom supported the motion.**

The motion prevailed, the time being 2:00 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