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SEN. MIKE GREEN
SEN. MIKE KOWALL
SEN. ARLAN MEEKHOF
SEN. REBEKAH WARREN, MINORITY VICE CHAIR
SEN. MORRIS HOOD III

THE SENATE
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES,
ENVIRONMENT AND GREAT LAKES
SENATOR TOM CASPERSON
CHAIRMAN

705 FARNUM
P.O. BOX 30036
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909-7536
PHONE: (517) 373-7840
FAX: (517) 373-3932

Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Environment and Great Lakes

A meeting of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Environment and Great Lakes was held Thursday, February 24, 2011 at 8:30 a.m. in Room 210 of the Farnum Building.

The meeting was called to order at 8:39 a.m.

Members present: Senators Casperson, Pavlov, Green, Kowall, Meekhof, and Warren
Members absent: Senator Hood

Senator Casperson called the meeting to order and led committee and audience members in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Senator Green moved to adopt the minutes from February 17th, 2011 with unanimous consent. Without objection, the minutes were adopted.

Senator Casperson placed before the committee Senate Resolution 7 (Senator Walker).

Patty Birkholz, Director of the Office of the Great Lakes, testified in support of the resolution. Ms. Birkholz then answered questions from the committee members.

Dave Nyberg, representing the Michigan United Conservation Clubs, supported the resolution and did not wish to testify.

Senator Pavlov introduced his guest in the audience to the committee members.

Alan Cropsey, representing Attorney General Bill Schuette, testified in support of the resolution. Mr. Cropsey then answered questions from the committee members.

Senator Green left the committee room at 8:53 a.m.

Senator Walker testified in support of his resolution.

Senator Pavlov moved to adopt the substitute (S-1) to Senate Resolution 7. By an affirmative vote of the majority of members serving, the substitute was adopted. Voting as follows:

Yeas: Senators Casperson, Pavlov, Kowall, Meekhof and Warren (5/7)

Nays: none (0)

Pass: none (0)

Absent: Senators Green and Hood (2)

Senator Meekhof moved that Senate Resolution 7 S-1 be reported out of committee with the recommendation that the resolution be adopted. 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 Casperson, Pavlov, Kowall, Meekhof and Warren (5/7)

Nays: none (0)

Pass: none (0)

Absent: Senators Green and Hood (2)

Senator Casperson placed before the committee Senate Bill 141 (Sen. Moolenaar).

Trevor VanDyke, representing Senator Moolenaar, testified in support of the bill and gave a brief overview of the issue from last week's committee meeting.

Senator Kowall moved that Senate Bill 141 be reported out of committee with the recommendation that the bill then pass. 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 Casperson, Pavlov, Kowall, Meekhof and Warren (5/7)

Nays: none (0)

Pass: none (0)

Absent: Senators Green and Hood (2)

The committee further recommended that the bill be given immediate effect by unanimous consent.

Meredith Johnson, representing the Heart of the Lakes Center for Land Conservation Policy, gave a presentation to the committee about the organization and its policy agenda. Ms. Johnson then answered questions from the committee members.

Senator Meekhof left the committee room at 9:12 a.m.

Senator Casperson adjourned the committee at 9:14 a.m.

3/10/11

Date Approved by Committee

**An audio recording of this committee meeting is available upon request for a minimal fee.