



**MEMBERS:**

SEN. PHIL PAVLOV, VICE CHAIRMAN  
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**

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## MINUTES

The Senate Committee on Natural Resources, Environment, and Great Lakes held a meeting on Thursday, June 5, 2014 at 8:30 a.m. in Room 210 of the Farnum Building.

Senator Casperson called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

Attendance was recorded as follows:

Present: Senators Casperson, Pavlov, Green, Kowall, Meekhof, Warren, and Hood

Absent: None

Excused: None

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Senator Casperson announced the following order of business:

Adoption of the minutes from the May 27, 2014 meeting

- HB 4038 (Rep. Jenkins) Natural resources; nonnative species; bush autumn olive; include on restricted species list.
- SB 910 (Sen. Casperson) Environmental protection; air pollution; wood heaters; prohibit department of environmental quality from promulgating certain rules or enforcing federal regulations.
- SCR 14 (Sen. Casperson) A concurrent resolution to urge the United States Environmental Protection Agency to forgo its recent proposal to tighten emission limits on wood stoves.
- SR 127 (Sen. Casperson) A resolution to urge the United States Environmental Protection Agency to forgo its recent proposal to tighten emission limits on wood stoves.
- SB 948 (Sen. Pavlov) Environmental protection; radioactive waste; storage and disposal; expressly prohibit storage or disposal for certain radioactive waste and establish advisory board on proposed Ontario repository.
- SCR 16 (Sen. Pavlov) A concurrent resolution urging the President of the United States, the Secretary of State, and the Congress of the United States to invoke the participation of the International Joint Commission under Article IX, Article X, or both, of the Boundary Waters Treaty to evaluate the proposed underground nuclear waste repository in Ontario, Canada, and similar facilities.

- SCR 17 (Sen. Pavlov) A concurrent resolution to urge the Great Lakes Commission to study and take a formal position on the proposed underground nuclear waste repository in Ontario, Canada, and to study the potential impacts of this facility and similar facilities on the Great Lakes and on the people who depend on the lakes.
- SR 150 (Sen. Green) A resolution to urge the Great Lakes Commission to study and take a formal position on the proposed underground nuclear waste repository in Ontario, Canada, and to study the potential impacts of this facility and similar facilities on the Great Lakes and on the people who depend on the lakes.
- SR 151 (Sen. Green) A resolution urging the President of the United States, the Secretary of State, and the Congress of the United States to invoke the participation of the International Joint Commission under Article IX, Article X, or both, of the Boundary Waters Treaty to evaluate the proposed underground nuclear waste repository in Ontario, Canada, and similar facilities.
- SCR 15 (Sen. Casperson) A concurrent resolution to call on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to withdraw their proposed rule expanding the definition of "waters of the United States" under the Clean Water Act.
- SR 147 (Sen. Casperson) A resolution to call on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to withdraw their proposed rule expanding the definition of "waters of the United States" under the Clean Water Act.
- SB 891 (Sen. Casperson) Environmental protection; cleanups; part 201 cleanup program; provide general amendments.
- SB 892 (Sen. Casperson) Environmental protection; cleanups; definition of facility; modify to include all contiguous property under common ownership that is or contains a facility.

Senator Casperson led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Senator Pavlov made a motion to adopt the minutes from the May 27, 2014 meeting; being no objection, the motion carried.

Senator Casperson announced the next item on the agenda, HB 4038. Andy Buss from Representative Jenkins office gave a brief overview of the bill.

The Chairman entertained a motion to report HB 4038 to the floor with the recommendation that the bill then pass. Sen. Kowall so moved, and a roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Senators Casperson, Pavlov, Kowall, Meekhof, Warren, and Hood

Nays: None

The motion prevailed

Senator Casperson announced the next item on the agenda, SB 910, SCR 14, and SR 127. The Chairman gave a brief overview of the legislation and S-1 substitute to SB 910.

Senator Green entered at 9:51 a.m.

The following individuals testified before the committee regarding SB 910, SCR 14, and SR 127:

- Charles Owens, National Federation of Independent Business- Support

The following individuals submitted a testimony card regarding SB 910, SCR 14, and SR 127, but did not wish to speak:

- Amy Dumm, Michigan Retailers Association- Support
- James Clift, Michigan Environmental Council- Oppose
- Deena Bosworth, Michigan Association of Counties and Michigan Association of Counties Drain Commissioners- Support (SR 127 and SCR 14)
- Dondre Young, Michigan League of Conservation Voters- Oppose

The Chairman entertained a motion to adopt the (S-1) substitute to SB 910. Sen. Green so moved, and a roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Senators Casperson, Pavlov, Green, Kowall, and Meekhof

Nays: Senators Warren and Hood

The motion prevailed.

The Chairman entertained a motion to report SB 910 (S-1) to the floor with the recommendation that the bill then pass. Sen. Pavlov so moved, and a roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Senators Casperson, Pavlov, Green, Kowall, and Meekhof

Nays: Senators Warren and Hood

The motion prevailed

The Chairman entertained a motion to report SCR 14 to the floor with the recommendation that the resolution then be adopted. Sen. Pavlov so moved, and a roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Senators Casperson, Pavlov, Green, Kowall, and Meekhof

Nays: Senators Warren and Hood

The motion prevailed

The Chairman entertained a motion to report SR 127 to the floor with the recommendation that the resolution then be adopted. Sen. Meekhof so moved, and a roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Senators Casperson, Pavlov, Green, Kowall, and Meekhof

Nays: Senators Warren and Hood

The motion prevailed

Senator Casperson announced the next item on the agenda, SB 948, SCR 16, SCR 17, SR 150, and SR 151. Senator Pavlov gave a brief overview of the package.

The following individuals testified before the committee regarding SB 948, SCR 16, SCR 17, SR 150, and SR 151:

- Jamie Cross, Alliance for the Great Lakes- Neutral (SB 948)
- Dan Wyant, Department of Environmental Quality- Support (SB 948)
- James Clift, Michigan Environmental Council- Support
- Matt Evans, Michigan United Conservation Clubs- Support

The following individuals submitted a testimony card regarding SB 948, SCR 16, SCR 17, SR 150, and SR 151, but did not wish to speak:

- Mike Berkowitz, Sierra Club Michigan Chapter- Support (SB 948)
- Kevin Powers, Nuclear Public Affairs and Ontario Power Generation- Oppose
- Dondre Young, Michigan League of Conservation Voters- Support

The Chairman entertained a motion to adopt the (S-2) substitute to SB 948. Sen. Pavlov so moved, and a roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Senators Casperson, Pavlov, Green, Kowall, Meekhof, Warren, and Hood

Nays: None

The motion prevailed.

The Chairman entertained a motion to report SB 948 (S-2) to the floor with the recommendation that the bill then pass. Sen. Warren so moved, and a roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Senators Casperson, Pavlov, Green, Kowall, Meekhof, Warren, and Hood

Nays: None

The motion prevailed

The Chairman entertained a motion to report SCR 16 to the floor with the recommendation that the resolution then be adopted. Sen. Green so moved, and a roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Senators Casperson, Pavlov, Green, Kowall, Meekhof, Warren, and Hood

Nays: None

The motion prevailed

The Chairman entertained a motion to report SCR 17 to the floor with the recommendation that the resolution then be adopted. Sen. Pavlov so moved, and a roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Senators Casperson, Pavlov, Green, Kowall, Meekhof, Warren, and Hood

Nays: None

The motion prevailed

The Chairman entertained a motion to report SR 150 to the floor with the recommendation that the resolution then be adopted. Sen. Hood so moved, and a roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Senators Casperson, Pavlov, Green, Kowall, Meekhof, Warren, and Hood

Nays: None

The motion prevailed

The Chairman entertained a motion to report SR 151 to the floor with the recommendation that the resolution then be adopted. Sen. Kowall so moved, and a roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Senators Casperson, Pavlov, Green, Kowall, Meekhof, Warren, and Hood

Nays: None

The motion prevailed

Senator Casperson announced the next item on the agenda, SCR 15 and SR 147. The Chairman gave a brief overview of the resolutions.

The following individuals testified before the committee regarding SCR 15 and SR 147:

- James Clift, Michigan Environmental Council- Oppose

The following individuals submitted a testimony card regarding SCR 15 and SR 147, but did not wish to speak:

- Charles Owens, National Federation of Independent Business- Support
- Mark Stadt, DTE Energy- Support
- Dan Wyant, Department of Environmental Quality- Support

The Chairman entertained a motion to report SCR 15 to the floor with the recommendation that the resolution then be adopted. Sen. Meekhof so moved, and a roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Senators Casperson, Pavlov, Green, Kowall, and Meekhof

Nays: Senators Warren and Hood

The motion prevailed

The Chairman entertained a motion to report SR 147 to the floor with the recommendation that the resolution then be adopted. Sen. Green so moved, and a roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Senators Casperson, Pavlov, Green, Kowall, and Meekhof

Nays: Senators Warren and Hood

The motion prevailed

Senator Casperson announced the next item on the agenda, SB 891 and SB 892. The Chairman invited Kendra Everett from his office to explain the changes the (S-1) substitute to SB 891 makes to the bill.

The following individuals submitted a testimony card regarding SB 891 and SB 892, but did not wish to speak:

- David Worthams, Michigan Bankers Association- Support (SB 891)
- James Clift, Michigan Environmental Council- Oppose
- Jason Geer, Michigan Chamber of Commerce- Support
- Maggie Datema, Department of Environmental Quality- Support
- Dondre Young, Michigan League of Conservation Voters- Oppose (SB 891)

The Chairman entertained a motion to adopt the (S-1) substitute to SB 891. Sen. Pavlov so moved, and a roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Senators Casperson, Pavlov, Green, Kowall, and Meekhof

Nays: Senators Warren and Hood

The motion prevailed.

The Chairman entertained a motion to report SB 891 (S-1) to the floor with the recommendation that the bill then pass. Sen. Meekhof so moved, and a roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Senators Casperson, Pavlov, Green, Kowall, and Meekhof

Nays: Senators Warren and Hood

The motion prevailed

The Chairman entertained a motion to report SB 892 to the floor with the recommendation that the bill then pass. Sen. Pavlov so moved, and a roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Senators Casperson, Pavlov, Green, Kowall, and Meekhof

Nays: Senators Warren and Hood

The motion prevailed

Being no further business, Senator Casperson adjourned the meeting at 9:31 a.m., without objection.

**Date Adopted by Committee: 8/13/14**

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