



MEMBERS:

SEN. PHIL PAVLOV, VICE CHAIR
SEN. DAVID ROBERTSON
SEN. JIM STAMAS
SEN. REBEKAH WARREN, MINORITY VICE CHAIR

THE SENATE
NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE
SENATOR TOM CASPERSON
CHAIR

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NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

MINUTES
December 2, 2015

A meeting of the Senate Natural Resources Committee was held on Wednesday, December 2, 2015 at 12:30 p.m., in room 210 of the Farnum Building.

The agenda summary is as follows:

1. SB 507 – Reported with recommendation and recommended immediate effect
2. SB 591 – Reported with recommendation and recommended immediate effect
3. HB 4604 – Testimony only

Senator Casperson called the meeting to order at 12:38 p.m.

Attendance was recorded as follows:

Present: Senators Casperson (C), Pavlov, Robertson, Warren

Excused: Senator Stamas

Chair Casperson led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Senator Robertson made a motion to adopt the minutes from the November 4, 2015 meeting. Being no objection; the minutes were adopted.

The Chair announced House Bill 4604 was the next item on the agenda. Representative Roberts gave members a brief overview of the bill.

The following individuals testified to indicate their position regarding HB 4604:

- Maggie Pallone & Sarah Ehinger, Department of Environmental Quality—Support

The following individuals submitted a testimony card to indicate their position regarding HB 4604 but did not wish to speak:

- Andrew Vermeesch, Michigan Farm Bureau—Support
- Scott Robbins, Michigan Forest Products Council—Support (with amendment to exempt logging access roads)
- Mike Berkowitz, Sierra Club: Michigan Chapter—Oppose

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- Sean Hammond, Michigan Environmental Council—Oppose
- Jennifer McKay, Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council—Oppose

The Chair announced the bill would be held for a vote at a future meeting.

The Chair announced Senate Bill 507 was the next item on the agenda and reminded members testimony had been taken at the November 4th, 2015 meeting.

The following individuals submitted a testimony card to indicate their position regarding SB 507 but did not wish to speak:

- Casey Steffee, Michigan Association of Counties—Support
- Kara Cook, Michigan League of Conservation Voters—Support
- Mike Berkowitz, Sierra Club: Michigan Chapter—Support
- John LaMacchia, Michigan Municipal League—Support
- Steve Montle, Resource Recycling Systems and Carton Council—Support
- Bonnie Bochniak, Michigan Food & Beverage Association and Michigan Recycling Partnership—Support
- Derek Bajema, Michigan Soft Drink Association—Support in concept

Being no further testimony, Senator Pavlov made a motion to report Senate Bill 507 with recommendation that the bill then pass.

Yeas: Senators Casperson, Pavlov, Robertson, Warren

Nays: None

The motion prevailed and the bill was reported.

Senator Casperson made a motion to recommend immediate effect; being no objection, immediate effect was recommended.

The Chair announced Senate Bill 591 was the next item on the agenda and reminded members testimony had been taken at the November 4th, 2015 meeting.

The following individuals submitted a testimony card to indicate their position regarding SB 591 but did not wish to speak:

- Andy Such, Michigan Manufacturers Association—Support
- EZ Manos, Evergreen Exploration—Support
- John LaMacchia, Michigan Municipal League—Oppose
- Mike Berkowitz, Sierra Club: Michigan Chapter—Oppose
- Kara Cook, Michigan League of Conservation Voters—Oppose
- Elizabeth Gorz, Michigan Association of Counties—Oppose

Being no further testimony, Senator Robertson made a motion to report Senate Bill 591 with recommendation that the bill then pass.

Yeas: Senators Casperson, Pavlov, Robertson

Nays: Senator Warren

The motion prevailed and the bill was reported.

Senator Casperson made a motion to recommend immediate effect; being no objection, immediate effect was recommended.

Being no further business, Chair Casperson adjourned the meeting at 1:03 p.m., without objection.

Date Adopted by Committee: December 9, 2015

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