



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

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NATURAL RESOURCES COMM'N.

House Bill 4737

Sponsor: Rep. Thomas Scott

**Committee: Conservation, Recreation,
& Environment**

Complete to 7-23-91

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4737 AS INTRODUCED 4-23-91

Currently, under Public Act 17 of 1921, the Department of Natural Resources enabling act, the Commission of Natural Resources is composed of seven members, of whom at least two must be residents of the Upper Peninsula. House Bill 4737 would provide for two additional members on the commission, and would reduce the required representation from the Upper Peninsula from two members to one. The bill would also reduce the terms of office of each member from six years to four years. In addition, the bill would prohibit any person from serving on the commission if a significant portion of his or her income was received from the holder of a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit issued under the federal Water Pollution Control Act (the bill's definition of "significant portion of income" means ten percent or more of gross personal income for a calendar year, or 50 percent or more if the recipient is over 60 years of age and receives that portion under a retirement or pension arrangement). This provision of the bill would not apply to income received from a permit holder or applicant if it were derived from mutual fund payments or from other diversified investments for which the recipient did not know the identity of the primary sources of income. The bill would also require that the director of the department's salary be established annually by the legislature; delete the requirement that the compensation of department's staff be subject to the approval of the State Administrative Board; and permit the director to appoint more than one deputy director. The bill would take effect April 15, 1992.

House Bill 4737 (MCL 299.1) is tie-barred to a bill that has not yet been introduced, and to the following bills:

House Bill 4652, which would establish an Office of Environmental Ombudsman in the Legislative Council;

House Bill 4653 (MCL 323.1 et al.), which would abolish the Water Resources Commission and transfer certain of its responsibilities to the Commission of Natural Resources;

House Bill 4654 (MCL 336.12 et al.), which would abolish the Air Pollution Control Commission and transfer certain of its responsibilities to the Commission of Natural Resources; and

House Bill 4800 (MCL 286.181 et al.), which would repeal the Toxic Substance Control Commission Act.

House Bill 4737 (7-23-91)