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DESIGNATE DARK SKY PRESERVE

House Bill 4025

Sponsor: Rep. Timothy L. Walberg Committee: Tourism & Recreation

Complete to 2-9-93

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 4025 AS INTRODUCED 2-2-93

The bill would designate certain state-owned land at Lake Hudson, located within Lenawee County, as a "dark sky preserve." Under the bill, the Commission of Natural Resources would have to ensure that outdoor lighting within the preserve was not installed unless it was needed for "the reasonable use and enjoyment" of property in the preserve. The commission also would have to ensure that outdoor lighting in the preserve did not unreasonably interfere with "nighttime activities that require darkness" (i.e., night sky-gazing, night photography, etc.). Within 90 days of the bill's effective date the commission would have to ensure that all lighting in the preserve was 1) directed downward, 2) provided, when possible, by "fully shielded" (defined as specially-made lighting fixtures that shield light from the naked eye) low pressure sodium fixtures, and 3) provided, where practical, by "motion sensor" lighting fixtures rather than by those that remain lit during all hours of darkness.