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BILL ANALYSIS

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Senate Bill 1281 (Substitute S-1)

Sponsor: Senator Tony Stamas

Committee: Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs

Date Completed: 6-7-04

CONTENT

The bill would amend Part 741 (State Parks System) of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to require the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to create a "Gem of the Parks" award to recognize key State parks for their contribution to the State parks system, a "Volunteer of the Year" award to recognize outstanding individuals who donated time or money to the system, and an "Employee of the Year" award to recognize outstanding employees of the State parks system.

The DNR would have to develop a program to facilitate the determination and presentation of the awards, which would have to be made annually. The Department also would have to develop a set of standards to use in determining the recipients of the awards, with consideration given to the following:

- The contribution of the State park, volunteer, or employee to the preservation of the State's natural resources.
- The amount of any monetary donation.
- The length of time donated or the years of employment.
- The length of a long-term commitment to the preservation of the environment.

Annually, the Department would have to submit the names of the award recipients to the standing committees in the Senate and House responsible for natural resources matters.

Proposed MCL 324.74124

Legislative Analyst: Claire Layman

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have no fiscal impact on State or local government.

Fiscal Analyst: Jessica Runnels

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