SNOWMOBILING: ASSUMPTION OF RISK

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H.B. 4198: FLOOR ANALYSIS

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House Bill 4198 (as reported without amendment)

Sponsor: Representative Charles LaSata

House Committee: Judiciary Senate Committee: Judiciary

CONTENT

The bill would amend Part 821 (Snowmobiles) of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to provide that the accepted risks associated with snowmobiling would not include injuries resulting from the careless or negligent actions of other snowmobilers.

The Act states that each person who participates in the sport of snowmobiling accepts the risks associated with that sport insofar as the dangers are obvious and inherent. Those risks include, but are not limited to, injuries to people or property that can result from variations in terrain; surface or subsurface snow or ice conditions; bare spots; rocks, trees, and other forms of natural growth or debris; and collisions with signs, fences, or other snowmobiles or snowgrooming equipment.

Under the bill, the accepted risks of snowmobiling would not include injuries to people or property that can result from another person's use of a snowmobile in a careless or negligent manner likely to endanger people or property.

MCL 324.82126 Legislative Analyst: Suzanne Lowe

FISCAL IMPACT

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

Date Completed: 3-26-03 Fiscal Analyst: Bethany Wicksall