

SENATE BILL No. 971

January 24, 2006, Introduced by Senators BROWN, BIRKHOLZ, GARCIA, BASHAM, PATTERSON, BISHOP, PRUSI, HARDIMAN, GEORGE, KUIPERS, McMANUS and OLSHOVE and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs.

A bill to amend 1994 PA 451, entitled
"Natural resources and environmental protection act,"
by amending section 74102a (MCL 324.74102a), as added by 2004 PA
392, and by adding section 74102b.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 74102a. (1) The citizens committee for Michigan state
2 parks is created within the department.

3 (2) The committee shall consist of 17 individuals appointed by
4 the director with the advice of the commission.

5 (3) The members first appointed to the committee shall be
6 appointed within 60 days after the effective date of the amendatory
7 act that added this section.

8 (4) Members of the committee shall serve for terms of 4 years
9 or until a successor is appointed, whichever is later, except that
10 of the members first appointed 6 shall serve for 4 years, 6 shall

1 serve for 3 years, and 5 shall serve for 2 years.

2 (5) If a vacancy occurs on the committee, the director shall
3 make an appointment for the unexpired term in the same manner as
4 the original appointment.

5 (6) The committee may remove a member of the committee for
6 incompetency, dereliction of duty, malfeasance, misfeasance, or
7 nonfeasance in office, or any other good cause upon a majority vote
8 of the members. An individual shall be removed from the committee
9 if he or she does not attend 4 consecutive meetings of the
10 committee.

11 (7) The first meeting of the committee shall be called by the
12 director. At the first meeting, the committee shall elect from
13 among its members a chairperson and other officers as it considers
14 necessary or appropriate. After the first meeting, the committee
15 shall meet at least twice each year, or more frequently at the call
16 of the chairperson or if requested by 9 or more members.

17 (8) Nine members of the committee constitute a quorum for the
18 transaction of business at a meeting of the committee. A majority
19 of the members present and serving are required for official action
20 of the committee.

21 (9) The business that the committee may perform shall be
22 conducted at a public meeting of the committee held in compliance
23 with the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275.

24 (10) A writing prepared, owned, used, in the possession of, or
25 retained by the committee in the performance of an official
26 function is subject to the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442,
27 MCL 15.231 to 15.246.

1 (11) Members of the committee shall serve without
2 compensation. However, members of the committee may be reimbursed
3 for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance
4 of their official duties as members of the committee.

5 (12) The committee shall do all of the following:

6 (a) Advise and make recommendations to the governor, the
7 commission, and the legislature on state parks policy and provide
8 guidance on state parks development, management, and planning
9 issues.

10 (b) Seek the development of a broad variety of programs,
11 facilities, and services for our citizens utilizing the state
12 parks.

13 (c) Inform and educate the public about the importance of and
14 need for state parks.

15 (d) Strive to involve citizens in the planning and development
16 of state parks and to ensure that the facilities, programs, and
17 projects are barrier-free and accessible to all citizens.

18 (e) Establish and maintain effective public relations
19 regarding state parks, utilizing all appropriate communications
20 media.

21 (f) Advise on financial planning and pursue adequate budget
22 support for state parks.

23 (g) Serve as a liaison and coordinate with other agencies to
24 ensure a cooperative effort to provide the most effective and
25 economical services possible at state parks.

26 (h) Evaluate the state parks programs, facilities, services,
27 and relationships periodically to assure that the committee's goals

1 and objectives are being achieved.

2 (i) Advise and make recommendations to the department on the
3 gem of the parks award, the state parks volunteer of the year
4 award, and the state parks employee of the year award established
5 under section 74124.

6 (J) UPON REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OR IF THE DEPARTMENT IS
7 CONSIDERING A FINAL RECOMMENDATION TO SELL ANY LAND WITHIN A STATE
8 PARK, REVIEW AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT ON WHETHER
9 ANY LAND WITHIN A STATE PARK SHOULD BE SOLD.

10 (13) The chairperson of the committee shall ensure that all
11 proposed policy positions of the committee are sent to the
12 committee members at least 1 week in advance of the meeting at
13 which the policy position will be acted upon. The committee may
14 adopt an emergency resolution that has not been sent to committee
15 members at least 1 week prior to a meeting of the committee, but
16 only upon the approval of 3/4 of those present at the meeting.

17 SEC. 74102B. (1) IF 3/4 OF THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE
18 RECOMMEND THAT LAND WITHIN A STATE PARK SHOULD BE SOLD, THE
19 DEPARTMENT MAY RECOMMEND TO THE LEGISLATURE THAT THE LAND BE SOLD.
20 THE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOT RECOMMEND TO THE LEGISLATURE THAT LAND
21 WITHIN A STATE PARK BE SOLD UNLESS THE COMMITTEE HAS REVIEWED THE
22 PROPOSED SALE AND 3/4 OF THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED
23 THE SALE.

24 (2) LAND WITHIN A STATE PARK SHALL NOT BE SOLD UNLESS
25 AUTHORIZED BY LAW.

26 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect
27 unless Senate Bill No. 972

1 of the 93rd Legislature is enacted into law.