

Legislative Analysis



EXTEND WINTER FISH SPEARING SEASON

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House Bill 6271

Sponsor: Rep. Steven Lindberg

Committee: Tourism, Outdoor Recreation and Natural Resources

Complete to 6-23-08

A REVISED SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 6271 AS INTRODUCED 6-19-08

The bill would amend Part 487 (Sport Fishing) of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (NREPA) to extend the season for spearing fish through the ice on inland waters of the state not otherwise closed to spearing. The current season is January and February. Under the bill, the season would run from December through the first two weeks of March.

Fish allowed to be speared during this season are "carp, suckers, mullet, redhorse, sheepshead, lake trout, smelt, northern pike, muskellunge, whitefish, ciscoes, pilot fish or Menominee whitefish, sturgeon, catfish, bullheads, dogfish, and garpike."

The bill moves and renumbers the definitions of "dip net" and "hand net" to the definition section of Part 487 but would not change the existing definitions of those terms.

MCL 324.48701 & 324.48703

FISCAL IMPACT:

The cost of an extended season would not require additional funding to the Department of Natural Resources. There would be no fiscal impact on local governmental units.

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