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Senate Bill 572 (as reported without amendment)
Sponsor: Senator Jim Barcia
Committee: Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs

CONTENT

The bill would amend Part 401 (Wildlife Conservation) of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to do the following:

- Authorize the Natural Resources Commission (NRC) to issue an order regulating the taking of game with a modified bow that may be shot with one arm.
- Allow revocation of the permit of a person convicted of violating the permit, and require the disposal of any animal or animal parts in his or her possession.

Section 40114 of the Act allows the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to issue a permit to a person who is permanently disabled, has full use of only one arm, and is unable to hold, aim, and shoot a bow. A permit authorizes the person to take game during the open season for that game with a bow that has been modified so that it may be held, aimed, and shot with one arm, if the person holds a license to take that game and complies with all other laws and rules for the taking of game.

The bill would allow the NRC to issue an order regulating the taking of game with a modified bow that may be shot with one arm. The existing provisions would not apply on or after the effective date of the order.

Section 40114 authorizes the DNR to issue a permit to hunt from a standing vehicle to a person who is unable to walk because he or she is a paraplegic or an amputee or because of a disease or injury that has rendered the person permanently disabled. The DNR also may issue permits authorizing any of the following: the taking or possession of animals for the purpose of rehabilitating them; the taking of animals to prevent or control damage and nuisance caused by them; the collection, transportation, possession, or disposition of animals and parts of animals for scientific purposes; the public exhibition of animals; taxidermy; the disposition of accidentally or unlawfully taken or injured animals or animals that are unlawfully possessed; and the taking of game with a crossbow by a person who is permanently disabled.

If a permit holder is convicted of violating Section 40114, his or her permit or license may be revoked and any animal and the parts of any animal in his or her possession must be disposed of in a manner approved by the DNR. Under the bill, this provision also would apply if a permit holder were convicted of violating the permit.

MCL 324.40114

Legislative Analyst: Julie Cassidy

FISCAL IMPACT

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

Date Completed: 11-2-07

Fiscal Analyst: Jessica Runnels