



Senate Fiscal Agency
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BILL ANALYSIS

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House Bill 4283 (as passed by the House)
Sponsor: Representative Matt Lori
House Committee: Tourism
Senate Committee: Outdoor Recreation and Tourism

Date Completed: 10-2-13

CONTENT

The bill would amend Part 435 (Hunting and Fishing Licensing) of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to include certain rifles among the firearms that a person may use to hunt deer during firearm deer season in the southern part of the State.

The Natural Resources Commission's Wildlife Conservation Order divides the State into two zones. In the northern zone, which includes the entire Upper Peninsula and the northern part of the Lower Peninsula, a person may use a rifle to take deer during firearm deer season. The southern portion of the Lower Peninsula is designated as the "shotgun, handgun, black-powder firearms only area" (i.e., the "shotgun zone"). In that area, the Order allows a person to take a deer during any firearm deer season with only the following firearms:

- A shotgun with a smooth or rifled barrel.
- A .35 caliber or larger pistol capable of holding no more than nine shells at one time in the barrel and magazine combined and loaded with straight-walled cartridges.
- A muzzle-loading rifle or black-powder pistol loaded with black-powder or a commercially manufactured black-powder substitute.

The bill would include the provisions regarding the shotgun zone in Part 435, but would refer to that zone as the "limited firearms area". The bill also would expand the allowed firearms to include a .35 caliber or larger rifle loaded with straight-walled cartridges with a minimum case length of 1.16 inches and a maximum case length of 1.80 inches.

MCL 324.43526

Legislative Analyst: Julie Cassidy

FISCAL IMPACT

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

Fiscal Analyst: Josh Sefton

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