Legislative Analysis



INCREASE PENALTIES FOR IMPROPER IMPORTATION OF DEER OR ELK CARCASS

Phone: (517) 373-8080 http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa

House Bill 5146 (proposed H-1 substitute)

Sponsor: Rep. John Kivela Committee: Natural Resources

Complete to 2-22-16

Analysis available at http://www.legislature.mi.gov

SUMMARY:

House Bill 5146 would amend Section 40118 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (NREPA) to increase the penalty for improper importation of deer or elk carcasses from a state or province detected to have chronic wasting disease in free-ranging deer or elk.

Presently, the act says any violation of Part 401, or an order or interim order issued under Part 401, is a misdemeanor punishable by not more than 90 days imprisonment and/or a fine of at least \$50 but not more than \$500, plus the costs of prosecution. Section 40118, however, contains several instances where specific violations result in a penalty differing from that default penalty. The bill would add a new violation to that list.

Under <u>House Bill 5146</u>, importing deer or elk carcasses from a state or province detected to have chronic wasting disease in free-ranging deer or elk populations in violation of an order or interim order would be a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 90 days, and/or a fine of not less than \$500 nor more than \$2,000, plus the costs of prosecution.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Any increase in penal fine revenues would increase funding for local libraries, which are the constitutionally designated recipients of those revenues.

Legislative Analyst: Josh Roesner Fiscal Analyst: Austin Scott

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