



Senate Fiscal Agency
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BILL



ANALYSIS

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Senate Bill 446 (Substitute S-1 as reported)
Sponsor: Senator Rick Jones
Committee: Outdoor Recreation and Tourism

CONTENT

The bill would amend Part 401 (Wildlife Conservation) of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to delay a sunset on a requirement that the Natural Resources Commission issue an order concerning deer and elk feeding.

Specifically, Section 40111a of the Act requires the Commission of Natural Resources, after consultation with the Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development, to issue an order concerning deer and elk feeding in a manner provided in Section 40113a. "Deer and elk feeding" means the depositing, distributing, or tending of feed in an area frequented by wild, free-ranging white-tailed deer and elk to prevent them from starving or for recreational viewing. The term does not include: a) baiting to take game; b) the scattering of feed as the result of a normal logging or agricultural practice; or c) feeding wild birds or other wildlife if done in such a manner as to exclude deer and elk from gaining access to the feed.

Effective January 1, 2016, Section 40111a will be repealed. The bill would change the sunset date to January 1, 2020.

(Section 40113a grants the Natural Resources Commission the exclusive authority to regulate the taking of game, and requires the Commission, to the extent possible, to use sound scientific principles in making its decisions.)

MCL 324.4011a

Legislative Analyst: Jeff Mann

FISCAL IMPACT

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

Date Completed: 10-1-15

Fiscal Analyst: Josh Sefton