

# Legislative Analysis



## RECREATIONAL TRESPASS

Phone: (517) 373-8080  
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**House Bill 4013 as reported from committee**  
**Sponsor: Rep. Bradley Slagh**  
**Committee: Natural Resources and Tourism**  
**Complete to 4-14-25**

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

## SUMMARY:

House Bill 4013 would amend section 73102 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (NREPA), which addresses circumstances under which a person is prohibited from entering or remaining on another person's property to engage in a recreational activity or trapping without consent.

Among other situations, a person cannot enter without permission if the property has signage prohibiting entry posted in a conspicuous manner, with a minimum letter height on the posting signs of one inch and each sign at least 50 square inches. The signs must be spaced to enable a person to observe at least one sign at any point of entry upon the property.

The bill would remove the above spacing requirement and instead provide that the signs must be posted at intervals of no more than 250 feet along the boundary of the property in order for unauthorized entrance to the property to be prohibited.

MCL 324.73102

## BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION:

The bill is a reintroduction of HB 4682 of the 2023-24 legislative session, which was passed by the House of Representatives.

According to sponsor testimony, the need to revise this section of NREPA arises from varying interpretations of what constitutes being able to observe a sign at any point of entry into a property. Some landowners have been told by law enforcement that because their signs are not placed at each point of entry into their property (with a point of entry being interpreted to mean any break in the tree line), charges cannot be brought against individuals entering the property without authorization.

The bill sponsor and supporters believe that adding a set distance between signs will allow reasonable notice of private property boundaries and allow enforcement action to be taken against trespassers.

## FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 4013 is unlikely to affect costs or revenues for the Department of Natural Resources or local governments. The DNR budget for FY 2024-25 totals \$534.6 million Gross (\$76.8 million GF/GP) and 2,545.3 FTE positions.

**POSITIONS:**

A representative of the Department of Natural Resources testified in support of the bill.  
(3-5-25)

Michigan Realtors indicated support for the bill. (3-5-25)

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■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.