

Legislative Analysis



TIMELINE FOR POSTING REVISIONS TO HUNTING AND FISHING REGULATIONS

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

House Bill 4029 as introduced
Sponsor: Rep. Bradley Slagh
Committee: Natural Resources and Tourism
Complete to 4-15-25

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

SUMMARY:

House Bill 4029 would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (NREPA) to set a calendar date cutoff for when the Natural Resources Commission may issue orders relating to hunting, fishing, and trapping and have them take effect in the same year. Under the bill, an order issued after August 15 of a given year would not take effect until the next calendar year's hunting or trapping season.

The bill also would modify a provision that allows the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to modify or suspend, via an order, the hunting, fishing, or trapping of any fish, game or fur-bearing animals, or game birds that the DNR has determined are in danger of depletion or extermination and require additional protection in designated waters or areas of the state.

Currently, if the DNR issues such an order, it must notify the public in its annual hunting, fishing, and trapping guides or by publishing the order at least 21 days, but not more than 60 days, before it takes effect in a newspaper in each county affected by the order.

The bill would eliminate the option for notice to be published in the newspapers of impacted counties and a corresponding requirement that the published notice be filed with the county clerk of each such county. The annual guides would have to be printed and made available not later than August 15.

MCL 324.40113 and 324.41103a

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 4029 may increase costs for the Department of Natural Resources by requiring the department to publish the annual hunting, fishing, and trapping guides with printed copies by August 15 annually. The extent of this potential cost increase is unclear at present, but not likely to be significant, as DNR already has the necessary infrastructure in place to issue publications and make printed copies publicly available. The bill is not likely to affect department revenues or local government costs or revenues. The Department of Natural Resources FY 2024-25 funding totals \$534.6 million Gross (\$76.8 million GF/GP) and 2,545.3 FTE positions.

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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.