

**HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON
Agriculture and Rural Development/Natural Resources
Draft MINUTES
DATE: April 16, 2024**

Chair Brixie called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. Representatives Brixie, Martus, Puri, McKinney, Mentzer, Borton, and Alexander were present.

Representative Borton moved to adopt the minutes of the March 19, 2024 meeting. The motion was adopted without objection.

Rep. Puri moved to adopt substitute H-1 for **House Bill 5511**, the Chair's recommendation for the FY 2024-25 **Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development** budget. Representatives Brixie, Martus, Puri, McKinney, Mentzer, Borton, and Alexander voted yes. The motion was adopted.

The House Fiscal Agency presented an overview of the substitute. Copies of the HFA Summary and detailed Decision Documents are included in the official minutes in HFA files and are available on the HFA website.

Rep, Alexander moved to withdraw an amendment, Amendment #1, that had been distributed to the subcommittee. The motion was adopted without objection.

Rep. Borton offered an amendment (Amendment #2) to strike the Farm to Family line item and increase the Local Conservation District Line item – from \$3.0 million GF/GP to \$4.0 million GF/GP. Representatives Borton and Alexander voted yes; Representatives Brixie, Martus, Puri, McKinney, and Mentzer voted no; the motion was not adopted.

Rep. Borton offered an amendment (Amendment #3) reduce GF/GP funding to the Qualified Forest Program by \$1.6 million. Representatives Borton and Alexander voted yes; Representatives Brixie, Martus, Puri, McKinney, and Mentzer voted no; the motion was not adopted.

Rep. Martus moved to report House Bill 5511 (H-1), to the full House Committee on Appropriations. Representatives Brixie, Martus, Puri, McKinney, and Mentzer voted yes, Representatives Borton, and Alexander passed. The motion was adopted.

Rep. McKinney moved to adopt substitute H-1 for **House Bill 5512**, the Chair's recommendation for the FY 2024-25 Michigan **Department of Natural Resources** budget. Representatives Brixie, Martus, Puri, McKinney, Mentzer, Borton, and Alexander voted yes. The motion was adopted.

The House Fiscal Agency presented an overview of the substitute. Copies of the HFA Summary are included in the official minutes in HFA files and are available on the HFA website.

Rep. Alexander offered an amendment (Amendment #1) to fund aquatic invasive species management. Representatives Borton and Alexander voted yes; Representatives Brixie, Martus, Puri, McKinney, and Mentzer voted no; the motion was not adopted.

Rep. Borton offered an amendment (Amendment #2) to eliminate funding for Nature Awaits. Representatives Borton and Alexander voted yes; Representatives Brixie, Martus, Puri, McKinney, and Mentzer voted no; the motion was not adopted.

Rep. Alexander offered an amendment (Amendment #3) to eliminate funding for the Michigan Conservation Corps. Representatives Borton and Alexander voted yes; Representatives Brixie, Martus, Puri, McKinney, and Mentzer voted no; the motion was not adopted.

Rep. Alexander offered an amendment (Amendment #4) to eliminate funding increase for DNR law enforcement records management software. Representatives Borton and Alexander voted yes; Representatives Brixie, Martus, Puri, McKinney, and Mentzer voted no; the motion was not adopted.

Rep. Borton offered an amendment (Amendment #5) to restrict dam management funding from being used for administrative costs. Representatives Borton and Alexander voted yes; Representatives Brixie, Martus, Puri, McKinney, and Mentzer voted no; the motion was not adopted.

Rep. Alexander offered an amendment (Amendment #6) to fund Sportsmen Against Hunger deer processing program. Representatives Borton and Alexander voted yes; Representative Mentzer voted pass; Representatives Brixie, Martus, Puri, and McKinney voted no; the motion was not adopted.

Rep. Borton offered an amendment (Amendment #7) to rebuild the Cornwall Flooding dam. Representatives Borton and Alexander voted yes; Representatives Brixie, Martus, Puri, McKinney, and Mentzer voted no; the motion was not adopted.

Rep. Borton offered an amendment (Amendment #8) to restore the Manistee & AuSable Rivers. Representatives Borton and Alexander voted yes; Representative Mentzer voted pass; Representatives Brixie, Martus, Puri, and McKinney voted no; the motion was not adopted.

Rep. Alexander offered an amendment (Amendment #9) for improvements to Monitor Township Park. Representatives Borton and Alexander voted yes; Representatives Brixie, Martus, Puri, McKinney, and Mentzer voted no; the motion was not adopted.

Rep. Alexander offered an amendment (Amendment #10) to restore deleted DNR-specific boilerplate sections. Representatives Borton and Alexander voted yes; Representatives Brixie, Martus, Puri, McKinney, and Mentzer voted no; the motion was not adopted.

Rep. Borton offered an amendment (Amendment #11) to expand access to backyard bird feeding. Representatives Mentzer, Borton, and Alexander voted yes; Representatives Brixie, Martus, Puri, and McKinney voted no; the motion was not adopted.

Rep. Martus moved to report House Bill 5512 (H-1), to the full House Committee on Appropriations. Representatives Brixie, Martus, Puri, McKinney, and Mentzer voted yes, Representatives Borton and Alexander passed. The motion was adopted.

Chair Brixie adjourned the meeting at 10:07 AM without objection.

Minutes taken by William E, Hamilton and Austin Scott, House Fiscal Agency
Approved: