

HB 4250 of 2011

Natural resources; hunting; deer and elk feeding; clarify prohibition.

This bill places definitive language to the description of what depositing or distributing feed to wild deer means. This bill was written because of feed for birds being interpreted as feeding deer or elk. This bill has been referred to the House committee of Natural Resources, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation.

HB 4259 of 2011

Natural resources; hunting; deer hunting season; establish to begin on the Saturday closest to November 15. HB4259 has just been introduced and referred to Committee on Natural Resources, Tourism, and Outdoor Recreation. There are many who I have talked to who do not support this bill, while some organizations do. MBH has contacted the legislator who sponsored this bill as well as the vice chairman of the committee it has been referred to in opposition as written and suggest that if Saturday opener is deemed needed, to have it the closest Saturday AFTER the traditional November 15th opening date.

HCR 0002 of 2011

A concurrent resolution to express opposition to the imposition of a ban of firearm hunting and snowmobiling in certain areas of the Huron-Manistee National Forest. HCR 0002 was adopted and transferred in the house of representatives and referred to the Senate Committee on Outdoor Recreation and Tourism where it is sure to pass.

SB 0207 of 2011

Natural resources; hunting; minimum hunting age; eliminate, and create mentored youth hunting program. This bill will;

- Eliminate the minimum hunting age (which is 10 or, to hunt deer, bear, or elk with a firearm, 12).
- Require the Natural Resources Commission (NRC) to issue an order establishing a mentored youth hunting program within one year after the bill took effect.
- Require a mentor to be at least 21; have a valid hunting license, other than an apprentice license; and present proof of previous hunting experience.
- Establish a mentored youth hunting license for a person younger than 10, and allow a licensee to hunt with a mentor who was at least 21 in accordance with the program.
- Require the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to issue to the Legislature every four years a report evaluating whether the fee revenue from mentored youth hunting licenses was adequate to administer the program.

The fee for a mentored youth hunting license would be \$7.50, and would include all of the following:

- Resident small game license.
- Combination deer license.
- All species fishing license.
- Turkey hunting license.
- Resident fur harvester's license.

A parent or legal guardian could allow a minor child younger than 10 to hunt only with a mentor in compliance with the mentored youth hunting program.

The bill would take effect on September 1, 2011. This bill has been reported out of committee with favorable effect, it looks sure to pass because of what speculation deems as a need to get youth afield in relaxing regulations. MBH has no position on this bill at this time. The bill is currently in the house and being read with an amendment.

Constitutional Right to Hunt and Fish Steps are being taken to make a constitution amendment in the state of Michigan to make it a individuals right to Hunt and Fish in Michigan

HB 4021, HB 4028 and HJR-B

Are designed to raid funds from the natural Resources Trust Funds by changing state spending priorities. Roads are to get 60 percent of the trust fund revenues. Airports would get 20 percent and parks and trails or state parks would get the remaining 20 percent.

The NRTF was created in 1976 to buy lands for public recreation or to protect land for their environmental importance or scenic beauty and help local communities develop land for public use. MBH opposes these bills and resolution

To find your house representative go to:

http://house.michigan.gov/find_a_rep.asp

To find your Senator go to:

<http://www.senate.michigan.gov/FindYourSenator/byaddress.htm>

As stated at the MBH board meeting, it is best if you state that you do more than just bow hunt, you small game, bird, firearm hunt, etc., when you let your House Representative and Senator know you oppose HB 4259