March 05, 2020, Introduced by Reps. LaFave and Markkanen and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation.

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the state constitution of 1963, by adding section 31 to article V, to create the natural resources commission and the Upper Peninsula natural resources commission.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the state of Michigan, That the following amendment to the state constitution of 1963, to create the natural resources commission and the Upper Peninsula natural resources commission, is proposed, agreed to, and submitted to the people of the state:

ARTICLE V
Sec. 31. (1) The natural resources commission is created. The natural resources commission is composed of seven members, not more than four of whom are members of the same political party, appointed by the governor by and with the advice and consent of the senate. At least three members of the natural resources commission must be residents of the Upper Peninsula. The term of office of each member of the natural resources commission is four years. The governor shall fill a vacancy occurring in the membership of the natural resources commission and may remove a member of the natural resources commission for cause after a hearing. Each member of the natural resources commission holds office until the appointment and qualification of that member's successor.

(2) Members of the natural resources commission shall serve without compensation. However, members of the natural resources commission may be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties as members of the natural resources commission.

(3) The natural resources commission has all of the following powers:

(a) The authority to issue orders or promulgate rules regarding the taking of game or sportfish that have an impact on the whole state or only the Lower Peninsula.

(b) Any other powers provided by law.

(4) The Upper Peninsula natural resources commission is created. The Upper Peninsula natural resources commission is composed of the following members:

(a) One individual appointed by each member of the house of representatives that resides in the Upper Peninsula.

(b) Two individuals appointed by each member of the senate
that resides in the Upper Peninsula.

(c) Two individuals appointed by a governor that resides in the Upper Peninsula.

(5) The term of office of each member of the Upper Peninsula natural resources commission is two years. If a vacancy occurs on the Upper Peninsula natural resources commission, the individual that made the original appointment shall make an appointment for the unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment. Each member of the Upper Peninsula natural resources commission holds office until the appointment and qualification of that member's successor.

(6) Members of the Upper Peninsula natural resources commission shall serve without compensation. However, members of the Upper Peninsula natural resources commission may be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties as members of the Upper Peninsula natural resources commission.

(7) The Upper Peninsula natural resources commission has all of the following powers:

(a) The authority to issue orders or promulgate rules regarding the taking of game or sportfish that only have an impact on the Upper Peninsula or that have no significant impact outside the Upper Peninsula.

(b) Any other powers provided by law.

(8) The legislature shall implement this section by appropriate legislation.

Resolved further, That the foregoing amendment shall be submitted to the people of the state at the next general election in the manner provided by law.