

## REPEAL CERTAIN AUTHORITY OF DNR

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<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

**House Bill 6192 as introduced**  
**Sponsor: Rep. Beau Matthew LaFave**  
**Committee: Oversight**  
**Complete to 6-15-22**

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

### SUMMARY:

House Bill 6192 would repeal section 41103 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act. Section 41103, which is in Part 411 (Protection and Preservation of Fish, Game, and Birds), authorizes the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to issue an order suspending or shortening the open season on fish, game or fur-bearing animals, or game birds, or regulate the taking of or killing that wildlife in the waters or area as the department considers necessary for their further protection. Currently, such an order cannot remain in effect for more than five years.

In addition, section 41103:

- Requires DNR to establish the seasons, size limits, creel limits, and methods of taking fish in certain designated inland lakes for the purpose of fisheries research.
- Authorizes DNR to establish several experimental game management areas, including one that includes Beaver Island and the four islands comprising the Little Beaver Islands State Park.
- Authorizes DNR to establish departmental rules and orders governing the kind of game that may be taken in the areas described above and the manner of the taking.
- Requires DNR to publish annually in at least one newspaper of general circulation notice of the availability of the annual sports fishing handbook.
- Requires DNR to notify the public, in at least one newspaper, of an amendment, correction, or addition to the annual sports fishing handbook.

MCL 324.41103

### FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 6192 would decrease publishing costs for the Department of Natural Resources by eliminating the requirement to annually publish notification of the sports fishing handbook. The department may also realize a cost savings in the prohibition of issuing certain wildlife-related orders, including hunting and fishing regulations. The bill is unlikely to directly affect departmental revenues; it remains to be seen whether the bill would have an indirect on revenue captured through the sale of hunting and fishing licenses. The sale of all hunting and fishing licenses generated an estimated \$66.2 million in FY 2020-21 revenue, which DNR uses primarily to support programs in wildlife and fisheries. In the current fiscal year \$83.4 million is appropriated from the Game & Fish Protection Fund/sub-funds in the DNR budget. Appropriations in the department's Wildlife

and Fisheries Divisions total \$46.7 million Gross (\$4.5 million GF/GP) and \$32.9 million Gross (\$541,700 GF/GP) respectively in the current fiscal year.

The bill is unlikely to affect local government revenues or costs.

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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.