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BILL ANALYSIS

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Senate Bill 520 (as enrolled) (Public Act 183 of 1988)**Sponsor: Senator Joe Mack****Senate Committee: State Affairs, Tourism, and Transportation****House Committee: State Affairs****Date Completed: 6-28-88*****RATIONALE***

The 40-acre Watersmeet Trout Rearing Station in Gogebic County has not been used as a fish rearing site since 1960. The county, however, would like to assume control of the site and use it to expand its county park located on the Ontonagon River. Transfer of the property to the county was authorized in 1984 by the Natural Resources Commission, providing special legislation to effect the transfer was approved.

CONTENT

The bill would allow the Department of Natural Resources to convey the 40-acre Watersmeet Trout Rearing Station to the Gogebic County Road Commission for consideration of \$1, which would be credited to the State's General Fund. The property would have to be used for county park purposes and would have to be open to all residents of the State on the same terms, fees and conditions. Upon termination of this use, or upon use for any other purpose, title to the land would have to revert immediately to the State, which would not be liable for improvements made at the county's expense. The conveyance would be made by quitclaim deed, reserving to the State all coal, oil, gas and metallic mineral rights.

FISCAL IMPACT

The land in question would be conveyed to Gogebic County for \$1. The conveyance would relieve the State of Michigan from annual \$100 payments made in lieu of taxes, and from any indirect costs associated with administration of the property.

ARGUMENTS***Supporting Argument***

Transfer of the fish rearing station to Gogebic County would enable the county to upgrade and expand its park, and would relieve the Department of Natural Resources of the administrative responsibility for the site.

Legislative Analyst: L. Burghardt**Fiscal Analyst: R. Abent**

This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan Senate staff for use by the Senate in its deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.

S.B. 520 (6-28-88)