

HOUSE BILL NO. 4855

June 27, 2023, Introduced by Reps. Aiyash, Rheingans, Byrnes, Arbit, Conlin, Wilson, Steckloff, Tsernoglou, Brabec, Scott, Pohutsky, Tyrone Carter, Hood, Dievendorf, Edwards, Miller, Coffia, Mentzer, Brixie, Weiss, Breen, Rogers, Haadsma, Price, Fitzgerald, Witwer, MacDonell and Young and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, Environment, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation.

A bill to amend 1994 PA 451, entitled
"Natural resources and environmental protection act,"
by amending section 43540e (MCL 324.43540e), as added by 2012 PA
520.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

- 1 Sec. 43540e. (1) The wolf management advisory council is
- 2 created ~~within~~**in** the department.
- 3 (2) The council ~~shall consist~~**consists** of at least the
- 4 following members:

1 (a) The director of the department, or ~~his or her~~ **the**
2 **director's** designee.

3 (b) ~~One member representing an organization that promotes~~
4 ~~conservation in this state appointed by the director or his or her~~
5 ~~designee.~~ **Two members representing organizations that promote**
6 **conservation in this state, 1 of whom must represent a nonprofit**
7 **organization that supports and promotes the conservation and**
8 **enhancement of this state's wildlife and habitat, recognizes and**
9 **promotes primarily nonconsumptive wildlife use, and has expertise**
10 **in wildlife issues, wildlife habitat, or wildlife management,**
11 **appointed by the director or the director's designee.**

12 (c) One member representing organizations that promote hunting
13 or fishing in this state, appointed by the director or ~~his or her~~
14 **the director's** designee.

15 (d) One member representing a tribal government **in this state,**
16 appointed by the director or ~~his or her~~ **the director's** designee.

17 (e) One member representing agricultural interests, appointed
18 by the director or ~~his or her~~ **the director's** designee.

19 (f) One member representing an animal advocacy organization,
20 appointed by the director or ~~his or her~~ **the director's** designee.

21 (g) **One member with a master's degree from an accredited**
22 **institution of higher education in zoology, wildlife management, or**
23 **a related discipline of science and the equivalent of 6 years of**
24 **full-time relevant experience, appointed by the director or the**
25 **director's designee.**

26 (3) The council shall meet at least annually.

27 (4) A majority of the members of the council constitute a
28 quorum for the transaction of business at a meeting of the council.
29 A majority of the members present and serving are required for

1 official action of the council.

2 (5) The business that the council may perform ~~shall~~**must** be
3 conducted at a public meeting of the council held in compliance
4 with the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275.

5 (6) A writing prepared, owned, used, in the possession of, or
6 retained by the council in the performance of an official function
7 is subject to the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL
8 15.231 to 15.246.

9 (7) Members of the council shall serve without compensation.
10 However, members of the council may be reimbursed for their actual
11 and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their
12 official duties as members of the council.

13 (8) The council shall annually submit to the commission and to
14 the legislature a report that makes nonbinding recommendations as
15 to the proper management of wolves in this state.