

Legislative Update for Week Ending February 16th, 2018

1. Top of Michigan Trails Council and Michigan Trails have collaborated on a “Q and A” regarding the new e-bike laws that came into effect at the end of January 2018. To learn more, [click here](#).
2. [SB 596](#) (Hansen) Passed Senate Unanimously. This bill will put key issues before both new and existing trailways councils as they seek to manage multi-jurisdiction trails. Trailways managers will review a plan to provide for consistent signage, maintenance, history telling and trail etiquette. Also, the bill implements the new history guidance document that Sandra and Dan Spiegel are working on for trails and declares that trails and trail amenities are a public good and hence clears up the confusion as to whether local units can fund them with general dollars. Next step: Third reading on the House Floor.
4. [SCR 27](#) (Warren) Passed the Senate unanimously. This urges the DNR to create a statewide water trail program with a grant fund to help support local water trails. Currently referred to House Appropriations Committee.
5. [SR 93](#) (Hune) Passed the Senate unanimously. Urges DNR and MDOT to commit all practical resources to finishing GLTL Route 1 by summer of 2019.
6. HR ____ (LaSata). Will urge commitment of state, federal and local water trails to develop a water trail program that emphasizes broadened access to our water trails and to focus on safety and natural resources education when water trails are being developed. To be introduced in mid-January
7. SR____ (Ananich) and [HR 230](#) (Frederick) These resolutions will support the pending applications of the Flint and Shiawassee Rivers as National Water Trails. Likely to be referred to Senate Outdoor Recreation Committee.
8. [SR 115](#) (Knezek). This resolution urges support for new Joe Louis urban trail in Detroit. Referred to the Senate Outdoor Recreation Committee.
9. [SB 124](#) (O'Brien), [SB 170](#) (O'Brien), [HB 4265](#)(Hughes), [HB 4198](#)(Alexander). Bike safety bills—two separate packages moving in both Houses. House Transportation Committee Chairman Cole has created a work-group. (focusing on the 5-ft safety zone, driver training requirements). Senate package is on Senate floor. House package is in House Transportation Committee.
10. Bike carrier obstruction bills-two different House bills. [HB 5100](#) (Hughes) reported from committee. HB 5100 has passed the House. Additionally, [HB 4881](#) (Lucido) reported from Transportation & Infrastructure committee. HB 4881 is currently on 2nd reading for the House floor.
11. [HB 4954](#) (Hernandez) This bill is an issue for the non-motorized community as it removes the current 1% mandate for spending on non-motorized transportation projects. This bill has had a hearing and significant opposition was presented. Still in Transportation Committee.

12. Quality of Life Bond Update--\$2.25 Billion—MITA, Recycling Coalition, MSA, MEC and others coming. Largest components for drinking water grants and cleanup. Non-motorized users have a \$50 million stake in this with motorized users. Also state and local parks, recycling and lead abatement and invasive species. Will have draft bills in two weeks.
13. HB 5155 (LaSata) Passed unanimously. This makes changes to the adopt-a-river program so that the volunteer clean-up is conducted on a segment of a river within a state park or recreation area and is conducted under the advisory of a State park or recreation area manager. Next Step: Action in Senate committee.
14. HB 5156 (LaSata) Passed unanimously. This adds an adopt-a-shoreline program to remove litter from shorelines within state parks and state recreation areas. Volunteer work will be conducted with advisory from a state park or recreation area manager. Next Step: Action in Senate Committee.
15. SJR O and SB 763--Proposes Constitutional Amendment to allow for expanded use of State Park Endowment Fund and Natural Resources Trust fund for trail renovation and redevelopment work and will close off potential diversion of NRTF into General Fund. Next step--Senate Committee action.