

HOUSE BILL NO. 4695

June 26, 2025, Introduced by Rep. Markkanen and referred to Committee on Natural Resources and Tourism.

A bill to amend 2000 PA 321, entitled
"Recreational authorities act,"
by amending sections 1 and 3 (MCL 123.1131 and 123.1133), section 3
as amended by 2016 PA 174.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

- 1 Sec. 1. This act ~~shall be known and~~ may be cited as the
- 2 "recreational ~~authorities~~ **and natural resources authority** act".
- 3 Sec. 3. As used in this act:
- 4 (a) "Articles" means the articles of incorporation of an
- 5 authority.

(b) "Authority" or "**recreational authority**" means a
~~recreational~~**-an** authority established under section 5.

(c) "Board" means the board of directors of the authority.

(d) "District" means a portion of a municipality having
 boundaries coterminous with those of a precinct used for general
 elections.

(e) "Electors of the authority" means the qualified and
 registered electors of the participating **municipality or**
 municipalities who reside within the territory of the authority.

(f) "Largest county" means, of those counties in which a
 participating municipality is located, the county having the
 greatest population.

(g) "Municipality" means a city, county, village, township, or
 school district.

(h) "Park" means an area of land or water, or both, dedicated
 to 1 or more of the following uses:

(i) Recreational purposes, including, but not limited to,
 landscaped tracts; picnic grounds; playgrounds; athletic fields;
 camps; campgrounds; zoological and botanical gardens; living
 historical farms; boating, hunting, fishing, and birding areas;
 swimming areas; and foot, bicycle, and bridle paths.

(ii) Open or scenic space.

(iii) Environmental, conservation, nature, or wildlife areas.

(i) "Participating municipality" means a municipality or
 district that is named in articles of incorporation or proposed
 articles of incorporation as joining in the original establishment
 of an authority, or a municipality or district that joins an
 existing authority and is added to the articles of incorporation,
 and that has not withdrawn from the authority.

(j) "Public forest and natural resources area" means an area of land or water, or both, and buildings and other improvements on the area, that is designated by an authority to be used primarily for 1 or more of the following:

(i) Recreational purposes, including, but not limited to, landscaped tracts; picnic grounds; playgrounds; athletic fields; camps; campgrounds; zoological and botanical gardens; living historical farms; boating, hunting, fishing, and birding areas; swimming areas; foraging and fruit picking; and foot, snowmobile, ORV, bicycle, and bridle paths or trails. As used in this subparagraph, "ORV" means that term as defined in section 81101 of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.81101.

(ii) Open or scenic space.

(iii) Environmental, conservation, nature, or wildlife areas.

(iv) Forestry or natural resources management.

(v) Protection or preservation of cultural or historical resources.

(vi) Any activity that may be a dedicated use of a park under subdivision (h).

(k) ~~(j)~~—"Public historic farm" means a parcel of public land and its buildings that are accessible to the public, and provides, but is not limited to, agricultural and historical programs, farming activities and animal husbandry, community recreation activities and events, programs held in common areas, meeting rooms, and community gardens, and access to surrounding parkland.

(l) ~~(k)~~—"Swimming pool" includes equipment, structures, areas, and enclosures intended for the use of individuals using or operating a swimming pool, such as equipment, dressing, locker,

1 shower, and toilet rooms.

2 (m) ~~(l)~~—"Territory of the authority" means the combined
3 territory of the participating **municipality or** municipalities that
4 is served by an authority.

5 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect
6 unless Senate Bill No. _____ (request no. S01810'25) or House Bill
7 No. 4694 (request no. H01810'25) of the 103rd Legislature is
8 enacted into law.