

No. 28
STATE OF MICHIGAN
JOURNAL
OF THE
House of Representatives
92nd Legislature
REGULAR SESSION OF 2003

House Chamber, Lansing, Thursday, April 3, 2003.

10:00 a.m.

The House was called to order by the Speaker Pro Tempore.

The roll was called by the Clerk of the House of Representatives, who announced that a quorum was present.

Accavitti—present	Garfield—present	Meisner—present	Sheen—present
Acciavatti—present	Gieleghem—present	Meyer—present	Sheltrown—present
Adamini—present	Gillard—present	Middaugh—present	Shulman—present
Amos—present	Gleason—present	Milosch—present	Smith—present
Anderson—present	Hager—present	Minore—present	Spade—present
Bieda—present	Hardman—present	Moolenaar—present	Stahl—present
Bisbee—present	Hart—present	Murphy—present	Stakoe—present
Bradstreet—present	Hood—present	Newell—present	Stallworth—excused
Brandenburg—present	Hoogendyk—present	Nitz—present	Steil—present
Brown—present	Hopgood—present	Nofs—present	Stewart—present
Byrum—present	Howell—present	O’Neil—present	Tabor—present
Casperson—present	Huizenga—present	Paletko—present	Taub—present
Caswell—present	Hummel—present	Palmer—present	Tobocman—present
Caul—present	Hune—present	Palsrok—present	Vagnozzi—present
Cheeks—present	Hunter—present	Pappageorge—present	Van Regenmorter—present
Clack—present	Jamnack—present	Pastor—present	Vander Veen—present
Condino—present	Johnson, Rick—present	Phillips—present	Voorhees—present
Daniels—present	Johnson, Ruth—present	Plakas—present	Walker—present
Dennis—present	Julian—present	Pumford—present	Ward—present
DeRoche—present	Koetje—present	Reeves—present	Waters—present
DeRossett—present	Kolb—present	Richardville—present	Wenke—present
Drolet—present	Kooiman—present	Rivet—present	Whitmer—present
Ehardt—present	LaJoy—present	Robertson—present	Williams—present
Elkins—present	LaSata—present	Rocca—present	Wojno—present
Emmons—present	Law—present	Sak—present	Woodward—present
Farhat—present	Lipsey—present	Shackleton—present	Woronchak—present
Farrah—present	McConico—present	Shaffer—present	Zelenko—excused
Gaffney—present			

e/d/s = entered during session

Rep. Edward J. Gaffney, from the 1st District, offered the following invocation:

“Heavenly Father, we thank You for allowing us to meet here today once again in service to the people of the state of Michigan. We ask for Your grace and guidance as we struggle to do what’s right in Your name. We ask for strength and courage to find within ourselves that which it takes to do the right thing. We ask that we find the humility within ourselves to follow You and to trust Your righteousness every step of our journey. In these perilous times, we humbly pray for Your divine providence in mercifully protecting the men and women who are at this hour fighting bravely for our freedom and peace. Also we must realize as human beings we have much more in common that binds us together than tears us apart. Help us to work together for the betterment of the people of the state of Michigan. May You grant us the wisdom and humility to be Your servants here on earth, and may we find the conviction to rightly serve Your charge. In Your name we pray, Amen.”

Rep. Waters moved that Rep. Zelenko be excused from today’s session.
The motion prevailed.

Third Reading of Bills

House Bill No. 4081, entitled

A bill to amend 1917 PA 167, entitled “Housing law of Michigan,” by amending sections 139, 141, and 142 (MCL 125.539, 125.541, and 125.542), as amended by 1992 PA 144.

Was read a third time and passed, a majority of the members serving voting therefor, by yeas and nays, as follows:

Roll Call No. 53

Yeas—103

Accavitti	Gielegem	Meisner	Shaffer
Acciavatti	Gillard	Meyer	Sheen
Adamini	Gleason	Middaugh	Shulman
Amos	Hager	Milosch	Smith
Anderson	Hardman	Minore	Spade
Bieda	Hart	Moolenaar	Stahl
Bisbee	Hood	Murphy	Stakoe
Brandenburg	Hoogendyk	Newell	Steil
Brown	Hopgood	Nitz	Stewart
Byrum	Howell	Nofs	Tabor
Casperson	Huizenga	O’Neil	Taub
Caswell	Hummel	Paletko	Tobocman
Caul	Hune	Palmer	Vagnozzi
Cheeks	Hunter	Palsrok	Van Regenmorter
Clack	Jamnack	Pappageorge	Vander Veen
Condino	Johnson, Rick	Pastor	Voorhees
Daniels	Johnson, Ruth	Phillips	Walker
Dennis	Julian	Plakas	Ward
DeRoche	Koetje	Pumford	Waters
DeRossett	Kolb	Reeves	Wenke
Elkins	Kooiman	Richardville	Whitmer
Emmons	LaJoy	Rivet	Williams
Farhat	LaSata	Robertson	Wojno
Farrah	Law	Rocca	Woodward
Gaffney	Lipsey	Sak	Woronchak
Garfield	McConico	Shackleton	

Nays—3

Bradstreet

Drolet

Sheltrown

In The Chair: Julian

The House agreed to the title of the bill.

Rep. Richardville moved that the bill be given immediate effect.

The motion prevailed, 2/3 of the members serving voting therefor.

Second Reading of Bills**House Bill No. 4154, entitled**

A bill to amend 1949 PA 300, entitled "Michigan vehicle code," by amending sections 719 and 720 (MCL 257.719 and 257.720), section 719 as amended by 2002 PA 453 and section 720 as amended by 2002 PA 535.

Was read a second time, and the question being on the adoption of the proposed amendment previously recommended by the Committee on Transportation (for amendment, see House Journal No. 20, p. 237),

The amendment was adopted, a majority of the members serving voting therefor.

Rep. Casperson moved to amend the bill as follows:

1. Amend page 2, line 3, after "**logs**" by striking out "**or tubular products**".
2. Amend page 3, line 26, after "**logs**" by striking out "**or tubular products**".
3. Amend page 6, line 1, after "**logs**" by striking out "**or tubular products**".
4. Amend page 6, line 2, after "**apply**" by striking out the balance of the subsection and inserting "**unless section 127(d) of title 23 of the United States Code, 23 U.S.C. 127 is amended to allow crib vehicles carrying logs to be loaded as described in this section.**".
5. Amend page 9, line 27, after "**logs**" by striking out "**or tubular products**".
6. Amend page 10, line 1, after "**logs**" by striking out "**or tubular products**".
7. Amend page 13, line 11, after "**apply**" by striking out the balance of the subsection and inserting "**unless section 127(d) of title 23 of the United States Code, 23 U.S.C. 127 is amended to allow crib vehicles carrying logs to be loaded as described in this section.**".

The motion prevailed and the amendments were adopted, a majority of the members serving voting therefor.

Rep. Casperson moved that the bill be placed on the order of Third Reading of Bills.

The motion prevailed.

Rep. Richardville moved that the bill be placed on its immediate passage.

The motion prevailed, a majority of the members serving voting therefor.

By unanimous consent the House returned to the order of

Third Reading of Bills**House Bill No. 4154, entitled**

A bill to amend 1949 PA 300, entitled "Michigan vehicle code," by amending sections 719 and 720 (MCL 257.719 and 257.720), section 719 as amended by 2002 PA 453 and section 720 as amended by 2002 PA 535.

Was read a third time and passed, a majority of the members serving voting therefor, by yeas and nays, as follows:

Roll Call No. 54**Yeas—71**

Acciavatti
Adamini
Amos
Bisbee

Garfield
Gillard
Gleason
Hager

LaSata
Meyer
Middaugh
Milosch

Shaffer
Sheen
Sheltrown
Shulman

Bradstreet	Hart	Moolenaar	Stahl
Brandenburg	Hoogendyk	Newell	Stakoe
Brown	Howell	Nitz	Steil
Casperson	Huizenga	Nofs	Stewart
Caswell	Hummel	Palmer	Tabor
Caul	Hune	Palsrok	Taub
DeRoche	Jamnack	Pappageorge	Van Regenmorter
DeRossett	Johnson, Rick	Pastor	Vander Veen
Drolet	Johnson, Ruth	Pumford	Voorhees
Ehardt	Julian	Richardville	Walker
Elkins	Koetje	Rivet	Ward
Emmons	Kolb	Robertson	Wenke
Farhat	Kooiman	Rocca	Woronchak
Gaffney	LaJoy	Shackleton	

Nays—34

Accavitti	Farrah	Meisner	Spade
Anderson	Gielegem	Minore	Tobocman
Bieda	Hardman	Murphy	Vagnozzi
Byrum	Hood	Paletko	Waters
Cheeks	Hopgood	Phillips	Whitmer
Clack	Hunter	Plakas	Williams
Condino	Law	Sak	Wojno
Daniels	Lipsey	Smith	Woodward
Dennis	McConico		

In The Chair: Julian

The House agreed to the title of the bill.

Rep. Richardville moved that the bill be given immediate effect.

The motion prevailed, 2/3 of the members serving voting therefor.

Rep. Anderson, having reserved the right to explain his protest against the passage of the bill, made the following statement:

“Mr. Speaker and members of the House:

I voted no on House Bill 4154 (H-1) because I am uncomfortable that by enacting this legislation we may stand to lose between \$60 million and \$100 million in federal road funding under 23 USC 127(d) under which the crib carrier truck in question is five feet longer than federal safety standards will allow. A letter from the Federal Highway Administration during the debate on this bill indicated that we may, in fact be faced with that reality. For that reason, I will not jeopardize funds to repair Michigan roads by voting for the bill. At a time when we are working as hard as possible to increase our share of federal road funds from Washington, I believe this bill sends the wrong message.”

Rep. Dennis, having reserved the right to explain her protest against the passage of the bill, made the following statement:

“Mr. Speaker and members of the House:

I voted no on House Bill 4154 (H-1) because I am uncomfortable that by enacting this legislation we may stand to lose between \$60 million and \$100 million in federal road funding under 23 USC 127(d) under which the crib carrier truck in question is five feet longer than federal safety standards will allow. A letter from the Federal Highway Administration during the debate on this bill indicted that we may, in fact be faced with that reality. For that reason, I will not jeopardize funds to repair Michigan roads by voting for the bill.”

Reps. Condino and Murphy, having reserved the right to explain their protest against the passage of the bill, made the following statement:

“Mr. Speaker and members of the House:

I voted no on House Bill 4154 (H-1) because I am uncomfortable that enactment as currently written may jeopardize \$60 million dollars in federal road funding under 23USC127(d). The Federal Highway Administration has refused to expressly waive or otherwise guarantee that Federak Highway funds are not threatened by enactment of this bill as written. I believe it is unconcionable to jeopardize funds to fix or repair Michigan roads until such time as the Federal Government consents to the language contained in this bill.”

Second Reading of Bills

House Bill No. 4032, entitled

A bill to make, supplement, and adjust appropriations for various state departments and agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003; and to provide for the expenditure of the appropriations.

Was read a second time, and the question being on the adoption of the proposed substitute (H-1) previously recommended by the Committee on Appropriations,

The substitute (H-1) was adopted, a majority of the members serving voting therefor.

Rep. Shulman moved that the bill be placed on the order of Third Reading of Bills.

The motion prevailed.

Rep. Richardville moved that the bill be placed on its immediate passage.

The motion prevailed, a majority of the members serving voting therefor.

By unanimous consent the House returned to the order of

Third Reading of Bills

House Bill No. 4032, entitled

A bill to make, supplement, and adjust appropriations for various state departments and agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003; and to provide for the expenditure of the appropriations.

Was read a third time and passed, a majority of the members serving voting therefor, by yeas and nays, as follows:

Roll Call No. 55

Yeas—105

Accavitti	Gielegghem	Meisner	Shaffer
Acciavatti	Gillard	Meyer	Sheen
Adamini	Gleason	Middaugh	Sheltrown
Anderson	Hager	Milosch	Shulman
Bieda	Hardman	Minore	Smith
Bisbee	Hart	Moolenaar	Spade
Bradstreet	Hood	Murphy	Stahl
Brown	Hoogendyk	Newell	Stakoe
Byrum	Hopgood	Nitz	Steil
Casperson	Howell	Nofs	Stewart
Caswell	Huizenga	O’Neil	Tabor
Caul	Hummel	Paletko	Taub
Cheeks	Hune	Palmer	Tobocman
Clack	Hunter	Palsrok	Vagnozzi
Condino	Jamnick	Pappageorge	Vander Veen
Daniels	Johnson, Rick	Pastor	Van Regenmorter
Dennis	Johnson, Ruth	Phillips	Voorhees
DeRoche	Julian	Plakas	Walker
DeRossett	Koetje	Pumford	Ward
Drolet	Kolb	Reeves	Waters
Ehardt	Kooiman	Richardville	Wenke
Elkins	LaJoy	Rivet	Whitmer
Emmons	LaSata	Robertson	Williams

Farhat
 Farrah
 Gaffney
 Garfield

Law
 Lipsey
 McConico

Rocca
 Sak
 Shackleton

Wojno
 Woodward
 Woronchak

Nays—2

Amos

Brandenburg

In The Chair: Julian

The House agreed to the title of the bill.

Rep. Richardville moved that the bill be given immediate effect.

The motion prevailed, 2/3 of the members serving voting therefor.

Second Reading of Bills

House Bill No. 4392, entitled

A bill to make appropriations for the department of community health for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004; to provide for the expenditure of the appropriations; and to provide for the disposition of fees and other income received by the state agency.

Was read a second time, and the question being on the adoption of the proposed substitute (H-1) previously recommended by the Committee on Appropriations,

The substitute (H-1) was adopted, a majority of the members serving voting therefor.

Rep. Whitmer moved to amend the bill as follows:

1. Amend page 16, line 5, by striking out “132,468,200” and inserting “192,468,300”.

2. Amend page 16, line 7, by striking out “1,290,123,400” and inserting “1,230,123,300”.

The question being on the adoption of the amendments offered by Rep. Whitmer,

Rep. Whitmer demanded the yeas and nays.

The demand was supported.

The question being on the adoption of the amendments offered by Rep. Whitmer,

The amendments were not adopted, a majority of the members serving not voting therefor, by yeas and nays, as follows:

Roll Call No. 56

Yeas—45

Accavitti
 Adamini
 Anderson
 Bieda
 Brown
 Byrum
 Cheeks
 Clack
 Condino
 Daniels
 Dennis
 Elkins

Farrah
 Gielegem
 Gillard
 Gleason
 Hardman
 Hood
 Hopgood
 Hunter
 Jamnick
 Kolb
 Law

Lipsey
 McConico
 Meisner
 Minore
 Murphy
 O’Neil
 Paletko
 Phillips
 Plakas
 Reeves
 Rivet

Sak
 Sheltroun
 Smith
 Spade
 Tobocman
 Vagnozzi
 Waters
 Whitmer
 Williams
 Wojno
 Woodward

Nays—62

Acciavatti	Hager	Milosch	Sheen
Amos	Hart	Moolenaar	Shulman
Bisbee	Hoogendyk	Newell	Stahl
Bradstreet	Howell	Nitz	Stakoe
Brandenburg	Huizenga	Nofs	Steil
Casperson	Hummel	Palmer	Stewart
Caswell	Hune	Palsrok	Tabor
Caul	Johnson, Rick	Pappageorge	Taub
DeRoche	Johnson, Ruth	Pastor	Van Regenmorter
DeRossett	Julian	Pumford	Vander Veen
Drolet	Koetje	Richardville	Voorhees
Ehardt	Kooiman	Robertson	Walker
Emmons	LaJoy	Rocca	Ward
Farhat	LaSata	Shackleton	Wenke
Gaffney	Meyer	Shaffer	Woronchak
Garfield	Middaugh		

In The Chair: Julian

Rep. Shulman moved that the bill be placed on the order of Third Reading of Bills.
The motion prevailed.

Rep. Richardville moved that the bill be placed on its immediate passage.
The motion prevailed, a majority of the members serving voting therefor.

By unanimous consent the House returned to the order of
Third Reading of Bills

House Bill No. 4392, entitled

A bill to make appropriations for the department of community health for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004; to provide for the expenditure of the appropriations; and to provide for the disposition of fees and other income received by the state agency.

Was read a third time and passed, a majority of the members serving voting therefor, by yeas and nays, as follows:

Roll Call No. 57**Yeas—63**

Acciavatti	Hager	Milosch	Sheen
Amos	Hart	Moolenaar	Shulman
Bisbee	Hoogendyk	Newell	Stahl
Bradstreet	Howell	Nitz	Stakoe
Brandenburg	Huizenga	Nofs	Steil
Casperson	Hummel	Palmer	Stewart
Caswell	Hune	Palsrok	Tabor
Caul	Johnson, Rick	Pappageorge	Taub
DeRoche	Johnson, Ruth	Pastor	Van Regenmorter
DeRossett	Julian	Pumford	Vander Veen
Drolet	Koetje	Reeves	Voorhees
Ehardt	Kooiman	Richardville	Walker
Emmons	LaJoy	Robertson	Ward
Farhat	LaSata	Rocca	Wenke
Gaffney	Meyer	Shackleton	Woronchak
Garfield	Middaugh	Shaffer	

Nays—44

Accavitti	Elkins	Law	Sak
Adamini	Farrah	Lipsey	Sheltrown
Anderson	Gielegem	McConico	Smith
Bieda	Gillard	Meisner	Spade
Brown	Gleason	Minore	Tobocman
Byrum	Hardman	Murphy	Vagnozzi
Cheeks	Hood	O'Neil	Waters
Clack	Hopgood	Paletko	Whitmer
Condino	Hunter	Phillips	Williams
Daniels	Jamnick	Plakas	Wojno
Dennis	Kolb	Rivet	Woodward

In The Chair: Julian

The question being on agreeing to the title of the bill,

Rep. Richardville moved to amend the title to read as follows:

A bill to make appropriations for the department of community health and certain state purposes related to mental health, public health, and medical services for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004; to provide for the expenditure of those appropriations; to create funds; to require and provide for reports; to prescribe the powers and duties of certain local and state agencies and departments; and to provide for disposition of fees and other income received by the various state agencies.

The motion prevailed.

The House agreed to the title as amended.

Rep. Farrah, having reserved the right to explain her protest against the passage of the bill, made the following statement:

“Mr. Speaker and members of the House:

I voted no on the Department of Community Health budget, House Bill 4392 (H-1), because this bill creates a structural deficit. The Governor sent us a balanced budget and we should send one back to her. The House Republicans shifted money around in this budget and created a \$60 million hole in our state budget. When our state is facing a \$1.7 billion deficit we cannot afford to put the health care of our children, our parents, and those most in need at risk by passing a bill that creates further deficits in our budget.”

Reps. Sak, Dennis, Anderson, Plakas, Paletko, Byrum, Accavitti, Phillips, Hunter, Smith, Minore, Brown, Gillard, Jamnick, Murphy, Lipsey and Hopgood, having reserved the right to explain their protest against the passage of the bill, made the following statement:

“Mr. Speaker and members of the House:

While there are numerous programs in this budget that I enthusiastically support, such as an expansion in the Elder Prescription Insurance Coverage (EPIC), respite care, mental health funding, the Home and Community Based Waiver, I voted ‘No’ on the Department of Community Health budget, House Bill 4392 (H-1), because this bill creates a structural deficit. The Governor sent us a balanced budget and we should send one back to her. The House Republicans shifted money around in this budget and created a \$60 million ‘hole’ in our state budget. When our state is facing a \$1.7 billion deficit we cannot afford to put the health care of our children, our parents, and those most in need at risk by passing a bill that creates further deficits in our budget.”

Rep. Law, having reserved the right to explain her protest against the passage of the bill, made the following statement:

“Mr. Speaker and members of the House:

HB 4392 contains a \$60 million dollar deficit. This is not a fiscally responsible bill.”

Rep. Spade, having reserved the right to explain his protest against the passage of the bill, made the following statement:
“Mr. Speaker and members of the House:

While there are numerous programs in this budget that I enthusiastically support, such as an expansion in the Elder Prescription Insurance Coverage (EPIC), respite care, mental health funding, the Home and Community Based Waiver, I voted ‘No’ on the Department of Community Health budget, House Bill 4392 (H-1), because this bill creates a structural deficit. The Governor sent us a balanced budget and we should send one back to her. As passed today, this budget contains and created a \$60 million ‘hole’. When our state is facing a \$1.7 billion deficit we cannot afford to put the health care of our children, our parents, and those most in need at risk by passing a bill that creates further deficits in our budget. As currently written, the DCH budget proposes to use phantom dollars for phantom services.”

Rep. Vagnozzi, having reserved the right to explain his protest against the passage of the bill, made the following statement:

“Mr. Speaker and members of the House:

I voted No on House Bill 4392 because it is fiscally irresponsible as it follows the practices of the past administration of spending beyond our revenues which got us into the \$1.7 billion deficit. I am a strong supporter of health programs contained in the programs in the bill I cannot vote for because it creates a \$60 million hole in the state budget and threatens the loss of another \$75 million in federal funds. When our state is facing a \$1.7 billion deficit we cannot afford to put health care of our children, our parents, and those most in need at risk by passing a bill that creates further deficits in our budget.”

Rep. Meisner, having reserved the right to explain his protest against the passage of the bill, made the following statement:

“Mr. Speaker and members of the House:

It is with some regret that I cast a no vote on HB 4392, a bill to provide funding for the State of Michigan’s Department of Community Health. This is the department responsible for many of state government’s most important functions, including the Elder Prescription Drug Insurance Coverage Program, the provision of healthcare services for children and senior citizens, and essential programs to provide mental health and substance abuse treatment services for the most vulnerable among us. The basis for my regret is that despite the great value of items in this budget, including a well-deserved increase in funding for innovative drug treatment courts, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have put these programs into severe jeopardy by suggesting that we continue down the path of fiscal irresponsibility that has put our state’s budget into the mess we face today. My Republican colleagues would have us pass a bill that is \$60 million out of balance. This in response to the proposal put forth by Governor Granholm, which balances our budget and puts us—for the first time in twelve years—on the path towards good fiscal health and responsible fiscal stewardship. Once again I must call on the wisdom of my colleagues in the Senate to fix the mess created by the House. The people of Michigan deserve better than this.”

Rep. Condino, having reserved the right to explain his protest against the passage of the bill, made the following statement:

“Mr. Speaker and members of the House:

I voted no on HB4392 as this bill creates a \$60 million dollar budget ‘hole’ that would ‘gut’ funding to those most served by medical and health care services in our state. It would violate my oath of office to support a budget bill which creates an unbalanced budget while putting our seniors and indigents at risk of further losing the health care services they are most in need of. I am very supportive of negotiating ways of preserving merit scholarship funding, but not jeopardizing health care to the poor and disabled.”

Rep. Bieda, having reserved the right to explain his protest against the passage of the bill, made the following statement:

“Mr. Speaker and members of the House:

It is with deep disappointment at the fiscal irresponsibility of this legislative body that I feel compelled to vote against this bill. We are Constitutionally required to pass a balanced budget. This bill contains a \$60 million dollar hole with no provisions for funding. Our constituents demand fiscal accountability. We cannot engage in ENRON style accounting practices, merrily spending money we do not have, that does not exist elsewhere, and with no serious plans, proposals or even ideas from where to draw this money. When a boat is taking on water, you don’t drill more holes in it. This bill relies on phantom dollars, and seriously jeopardizes health care in this state by continuing a structural deficit that has resulted in a nearly \$2 billion shortfall. Purposely writing a check that bounces is a crime in this state. Here, this legislature is essentially doing the same thing. We owe it to our communities to honestly address the budget mess. HB 4392 as passed by the House is a seriously flawed and perhaps devious attempt to undermine and destroy health care programs that our citizens rely and depend on. Understanding that this is but a first step in the budget process, I hope that this legislature gets its act together and can pass a balanced budget that honestly addresses the concerns of the people of this state. I trust that we will.”

Rep. Richardville moved that House Committees be given leave to meet during the balance of today's session. The motion prevailed.

By unanimous consent the House returned to the order of

Motions and Resolutions

Reps. LaJoy, Milosch, Acciavatti, Brandenburg, Ward, Stakoe, Garfield, DeRossett, Pastor, Stewart, Hune, Gaffney, Stahl, Caswell, Robertson, Spade, Pumford, Farhat, Casperson, Shaffer, Taub, Shackleton, Palsrok, Woronchak, Anderson, Drolet, Pappageorge, Vagnozzi, Ruth Johnson and Condino offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 36.

A resolution to memorialize the Congress of the United States to provide assistance to help Michigan combat the infestation from the emerald ash borer.

Whereas, In an amazingly short period of time, an important species of tree in Michigan faces a devastating infestation from an insect known as the emerald ash borer. This beetle, which has also been found in Ontario and Ohio, is thought to have entered Michigan in 1997. Already, this insect has killed 5 million trees in the six-county area of southeastern Michigan. In response, the state has quarantined the six counties, where approximately 28 million ash trees are at risk; and

Whereas, The potential impact of this invading species would be dramatic across our state. In addition to what the loss of all ash trees would mean to the appearance of our homes, communities, and the entire state, this is an important and versatile lumber resource that may be lost without swift and certain actions. As with any type of plant so widespread, the loss of Michigan's estimated one billion ash trees clearly could have unforeseen effects on our forest ecology; and

Whereas, In an effort to save this species of trees, the Governor has asked the federal government for financial assistance. In addition, state and community officials need technical help to develop a means of combating this problem, which clearly has the potential to cause great damage not only in Michigan, but across the country; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to provide assistance to help Michigan combat the infestation from the emerald ash borer; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

The resolution was referred to the Committee on Land Use and Environment.

Announcement by the Clerk of Printing and Enrollment

The Clerk announced that the following bills had been printed and placed upon the files of the members, Thursday, April 3:

House Bill Nos. 4511 4512 4513 4514 4515 4516 4517 4518 4519

The Clerk announced that the following Senate bill had been received on Thursday, April 3:

Senate Bill No. 157

By unanimous consent the House returned to the order of

Messages from the Senate

Senate Bill No. 157, entitled

A bill to amend 1976 PA 451, entitled "The revised school code," by amending section 375 (MCL 380.375), as added by 1999 PA 10.

The Senate has passed the bill.

The bill was read a first time by its title and referred to the Committee on Commerce.

House Bill No. 4010, entitled

A bill to amend 1974 PA 198, entitled "An act to provide for the establishment of plant rehabilitation districts and industrial development districts in local governmental units; to provide for the exemption from certain taxes; to levy and collect a specific tax upon the owners of certain facilities; to impose and provide for the disposition of an administrative fee; to provide for the disposition of the tax; to provide for the obtaining and transferring of an exemption certificate and to prescribe the contents of those certificates; to prescribe the powers and duties of the state tax commission and certain officers of local governmental units; and to provide penalties," by amending section 2 (MCL 207.552), as amended by 2002 PA 280.

The Senate has amended the bill as follows:

1. Amend page 3, line 19, after "government" by inserting a comma and "**including, but not limited to, an electric generating plant fueled by biomass**".

The Senate has passed the bill as amended and ordered that it be given immediate effect.

The Speaker announced that pursuant to Rule 45, the bill was laid over one day.

Communications from State Officers

The following communication from the Department of Natural Resources was received and read:

March 27, 2003

The Department of Natural Resources is providing you with copies of the annual report for our Law Enforcement Division's Communications Section and Wildlife Resource Protection Unit. These reports detail activities and expenditures for Fiscal Year 2002.

Public Act 451 of 1994, Part 435, Section 43555 (4) directs the Department to annually provide the Legislature with a report detailing expenditures from the Wildlife Resource Protection Fund.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Dennis Knapp
Legislative Liaison

The communication was referred to the Clerk.

Introduction of Bills

Rep. Koetje introduced

House Bill No. 4520, entitled

A bill to amend 1998 PA 386, entitled "Estates and protected individuals code," by amending section 5108 (MCL 700.5108), as added by 2000 PA 465.

The bill was read a first time by its title and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Rep. Koetje introduced

House Bill No. 4521, entitled

A bill to amend 1998 PA 386, entitled "Estates and protected individuals code," by amending section 5409 (MCL 700.5409), as amended by 2000 PA 463.

The bill was read a first time by its title and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Rep. Rocca introduced

House Bill No. 4522, entitled

A bill to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled "Michigan election law," by amending sections 826, 845, and 933 (MCL 168.826, 168.845, and 168.933), as amended by 1999 PA 217, and by adding section 848.

The bill was read a first time by its title and referred to the Committee on Local Government and Urban Policy.

Announcements by the Clerk

The following is a change of meeting place for the Standing Committee on Insurance for the 2003-2004 Legislative Session:

The committee will meet on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. in Room 521 House Office Building

Rep. Farrah moved that the House adjourn.

The motion prevailed, the time being 12:35 p.m.

The Speaker Pro Tempore declared the House adjourned until Tuesday, April 8, at 1:00 p.m.

GARY L. RANDALL
Clerk of the House of Representatives

