

**REPRINT**

**SUBSTITUTE FOR**

**HOUSE BILL NO. 5366**

(As passed the House, July 1, 1998)

A bill to amend 1994 PA 451, entitled  
"Natural resources and environmental protection act,"  
by amending section 43555 (MCL 324.43555), as amended by 1996 PA  
585.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1       Sec. 43555. (1) Thirty-five cents from each license and  
2 stamp fee prescribed in this part, except for fees for licenses  
3 described in section 43553(5), shall be transmitted to the  
4 department for deposit in the wildlife resource protection fund  
5 created in this section.

6       (2) The wildlife resource protection fund is created as a  
7 separate fund within the state treasury. The state treasurer  
8 shall credit the money received from the department under this  
9 section to the wildlife resource protection fund. The money in

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1 the WILDLIFE RESOURCE PROTECTION fund shall be expended by the  
2 department for the following purposes:

3 (a) Rewards for information leading to the arrest and prose-  
4 cution of poachers AND PERSONS WHO OBSTRUCT OR INTERFERE IN THE  
5 LAWFUL TAKING OF ANIMALS OR AQUATIC SPECIES IN VIOLATION OF SEC-  
6 TION 40112 OR 48702A, RESPECTIVELY. IF A VIOLATION OF SECTION  
7 40112 OR 48702A INVOLVED KILLING A PERSON ENGAGED IN LAWFULLY  
8 TAKING AN ANIMAL OR AQUATIC SPECIES, THE REWARD SHALL BE  
9 \$5,000.00. A PERSON WHOSE LAWFUL TAKING OF AN ANIMAL OR AQUATIC  
SPECIES IS OBSTRUCTED OR INTERFERED IN IS NOT ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A  
REWARD UNDER THIS SUBDIVISION.

10 (b) Hiring conservation officers for the investigation of  
11 poaching and the investigation of tips regarding potential  
12 poaching.

13 (c) A promotional and educational campaign to inform the  
14 general public on 1 or more of the following:

15 (i) The harm and danger of poaching.

16 (ii) The reward for information that leads to the arrest and  
17 prosecution of poachers AND PERSONS WHO OBSTRUCT OR INTERFERE IN  
18 THE LAWFUL TAKING OF ANIMALS OR AQUATIC SPECIES IN VIOLATION OF  
19 SECTION 40112 OR 48702A, RESPECTIVELY.

20 (iii) Other antipoaching programs undertaken by the  
21 department.

22 (iv) HOW TO IDENTIFY AND REPORT PERSONS WHO OBSTRUCT OR  
23 INTERFERE IN THE LAWFUL TAKING OF ANIMALS OR AQUATIC SPECIES IN  
24 VIOLATION OF SECTION 40112 OR 48702A, RESPECTIVELY.

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3       (3) At the time a person purchases a license or stamp  
4 under this part, he or she may make a voluntary contribution in  
5 any amount to the wildlife resource protection fund to be  
6 expended for the purposes provided in subsection (2). A person  
7 who wishes to make such a contribution may purchase 1 or more  
8 conservation law enforcement stamps from a person authorized to  
9 issue licenses and sportcards under this part.

10       (4) The department shall annually report to the legis-  
11 lature on the expenditures from the wildlife resource protection  
12 fund.