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May 22, 2013

Contact: Katie Sulau, 734.222.9650 or [katie@michiganlcv.org](mailto:katie@michiganlcv.org)

## **Wetlands Overhaul Rushed Through Senate**

### ***Michigan LCV Says Bill Comes Up Short***

LANSING --- The Michigan Senate voted in favor of a bill that overhauls Michigan's wetlands protections program today, just after moving the bill from committee yesterday. The legislation is sponsored by Senator Mike Green (R - Mayville) and passed with bipartisan opposition on a vote of 25 - 12.

"If we truly want to protect Michigan's wetlands and take care of the clean, fresh water that drives our economy, we must see changes to this bill," said Jack Schmitt, Political Director for Michigan LCV. "Jamming a complete regulatory overhaul through the legislature at breakneck pace is neither prudent nor transparent. All of us who rely on clean water - fishermen, farmers, businesses, manufacturers: everyone in the Great Lakes state, deserve better."

Wetlands are critical for flood management, filtration of surface water and a host of other hydrologic functions crucial to Michigan residents and businesses. The legislation that moved from the Senate today weakens wetland protections in the state of Michigan and jeopardizes the important role wetlands play in purifying our water and sustaining our state's economy.

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*Michigan League of Conservation Voters is Michigan's non-partisan political voice for land, air and water. Visit our website: <http://www.michiganlcv.org>.*