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**Agriculture & Natural Resources  
Committee**

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**HB 2540**

**Brief Description:** Regarding the advisory committee that represents the interest of hunters and fishers with disabilities.

**Sponsors:** Representative Warnick.

**Brief Summary of Bill**

- Makes permanent the advisory committee to the Fish and Wildlife Commission that represents the interests of hunters and fishers with disabilities.

**Hearing Date:** 1/17/08

**Staff:** Jason Callahan (786-7117).

**Background:**

The 2001 Legislature created a temporary advisory committee to the Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) that generally represents the interests of hunters and fishers with disabilities. These interests include special hunts, modified sporting equipment, access to public lands, and increased hunting and fishing opportunities. The seven members of the advisory committee were appointed by the Commission and, in accordance with the 2001 law, is comprised of individuals with disabilities representing the six Department of Fish and Wildlife administrative units and one member appointed at large.

The advisory committee was originally set to terminate on July 1, 2005, and was extended three additional years until July 1, 2008. The Commission was required to submit a report to the Legislature in 2007 that detailed the effectiveness of the advisory committee, and recommend if the advisory committee should be continued or modified.

In its report to the Legislature, the Commission stated that the advisory committee presented information that led to rule making decisions that benefitted the community of disabled hunters,

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fishers, and wildlife viewers. The Commission concluded in their recommendation that the advisory committee be extended until July 1, 2011.

**Summary of Bill:**

The advisory committee to the Fish and Wildlife Commission that represents the interests hunters and fishers with disabilities is changed from a pilot project into a permanent entity.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.