

# OPPOSE THE COMMERCIAL TAKE OF GAMEFISH

# OPPOSE HB 5108

## WHO WE ARE:

A collection of conservation, fishing, habitat and outdoor entities committed to bettering Michigan's wildlife and habitat.



MSSFA

## THE PROBLEM

House Bill 5108 commercializes fish held in the public trust, including walleye, perch, lake trout and bass. These species are almost exclusively managed using DNR fishing license sales and excise taxes on fishing equipment. HB 5108 also expands gillnet useage, a practice banned in the 1970s because of its detrimental impact on ALL fish populations.

- Gamefish are managed in the public trust using angler monies
- Gillnets are indiscriminate and always lethal
- Commercial licenses, like fishing licenses, are not a right, they are a privilege

## THE SOLUTION

Updating and passing new commercial fishing legislation that prioritizes the health of the fishery and habitat benefits everyone. Codifying decades-old statute will ensure that the next generation of Michiganders have the same healthy fish populations that we had.

A bill is currently being worked on by Representative Amos O'Neal (D-Saginaw) that will address these issues.

# PLEASE **OPPOSE HB 5108** AND SUPPORT HEALTHY MICHIGAN FISHERIES

This is a photo of dead walleye left in an unattended commercial fishing net on Saginaw Bay.  
Dont let this continue.