

F I N A L R E P O R T

RECREATION/IN-STATE TOURISM STUDY COMMITTEE

January, 1984

The Recreation/In-State Tourism Study Committee was established by the Legislative Council to review state parks and recreation issues and to review tourism in this state and was comprised of members of the Senate and House Standing Committees on Natural Resources and of the Senate and House Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittees.

Members serving on the Study Committee were:

Senator Bass Van Gilst, Co-Chairperson
Representative William R. Sullivan, Co-Chairperson
Senator Berl E. Priebe
Senator Hurley W. Hall
Senator Norman J. Goodwin
Senator Richard Vande Hoef
Representative Dennis H. Black
Representative Mark Haverland
Representative Marvin E. Diemer
Representative Robert J. Grandia

The Study Committee was granted three meeting days. These meetings were held on August 23, October 20, and November 29.

At the first two meetings, the Study Committee heard presentations from individuals from the state conservation commission and the state development commission and from various organizations representing private enterprise or local units of government that are involved in providing or promoting recreational and tourist attractions and activities. The individuals giving presentations gave their perspectives on the state of recreation, parks, and other attractions in the state and on the need to promote Iowa not only to attract persons from outside the state but to keep those within the state here. Suggestions were also made on possible funding sources for recreation and tourism. Copies of their presentations and other materials presented by them are on file with the Legislative Service Bureau. Individuals making presentations were:

Mr. Paul Comer, Director, Travel & Tourism Division of the
Iowa Development Commission
Mr. Larry Wilson, Director, Iowa Conservation Commission
Mr. Don Brazelton, Executive Director, Iowa Association
of County Conservation Boards
Ms. Nancy Murphy, Director of Tourism for the Greater Des Moines
Area Convention and Visitors Bureau
Mr. Jay Goldstein, President, Greater Rivers Region Travel Council

and Tourism Director for Van Buren County
Mr. Jay Glasnapp, Iowa Travel Council, General Manager of
Adventureland
Mr. Gent Wittenberg, Assistant Manager of Dubuque
Mr. Mark Ackelson, Iowa Heritage Foundation
Mr. Mike Goedert, Legislative Service Bureau

At the last meeting, the Study Committee discussed and made final recommendations. These recommendations are three bill drafts, which are attached to this final report, to be presented to the Speaker of the House and President of the Senate for assignment to the chairpersons of the appropriate standing committees. The titles of the recommended bill drafts are as follows:

1. An Act directing the surplus moneys of the state racing commission to be deposited in the state conservation fund and specifying the uses of the moneys.
2. An Act to create an "Outdoor Iowa Program" within the state conservation commission.
3. An Act relating to the creation of a public outdoor recreation and resources program, an advisory council, and a county conservation board fund.

PROPOSED SENATE/HOUSE FILE

BY (RECREATION AND IN-STATE
TOURISM STUDY COMMITTEE
BILL)

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____

Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____

Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act directing the surplus moneys of the state racing com-
2 mission to be deposited in the state conservation fund
3 and specifying the uses of the moneys.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. Section 99D.18, Code Supplement 1983, is amended
2 to read as follows:

3 99D.18 SURPLUS FUNDS--HOW USED. From the balance of the
4 funds coming into the hands of the commission pursuant to
5 section 99D.14, fifty thousand dollars shall be used by the
6 Iowa state university college of veterinary medicine to develop
7 further research on the treatment of equine injuries and
8 diseases. The remaining funds shall be ~~divided-into~~ deposited
9 in the state conservation fund of the state conservation
10 commission.

11 Sec. 2. Section 107.19, unnumbered paragraph 2, Code 1983,
12 is amended to read as follows:

13 The state conservation commission shall biennially on or
14 before September 1 of each even-numbered year submit to the
15 comptroller for transmission to the general assembly a detailed
16 estimate of the amount required by the commission during the
17 succeeding biennium for the carrying on of the activities
18 embraced in the fish and game division. ~~Such~~ The estimate
19 shall be in the same general form and detail as may be required
20 by law in estimates submitted by other state departments.
21 The funds shall be used for any purpose of the state
22 conservation fund, and in addition may be used to enter into
23 agreements with county conservation boards and county boards
24 of supervisors, in those counties without conservation boards,
25 to provide cost-sharing for land acquisitions and recreational
26 facilities construction, repair, and renovation.

27 EXPLANATION

28 This bill provides that the surplus funds of the state
29 racing commission shall be deposited in the state conservation
30 fund. The funds shall be used for any purpose of the state
31 conservation fund and in addition may be used to enter into
32 cost-sharing agreements with county conservation boards and
33 county boards of supervisors for land acquisition and
34 recreational facilities construction, repair, and renovation.

35 This bill becomes effective July 1 following enactment.

PROPOSED SENATE/HOUSE FILE _____

BY (RECREATION AND IN-STATE
TOURISM STUDY COMMITTEE
BILL)

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____

Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____

Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act to create an "Outdoor Iowa Program" within the state
2 conservation commission.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 107.37 OUTDOOR IOWA PROGRAM.

2 The commission shall develop and initiate a program to enhance
3 and maintain outdoor recreation opportunities within Iowa.

4 This program shall be known as the "Outdoor Iowa Program"
5 and shall consist of the following components:

6 1. An open space acquisition program including, but not
7 limited to:

8 a. A river corridor protection and river access program.

9 b. Additions to the state forest system.

10 c. A trout stream protection and access program.

11 d. Increased wildlife management areas and lands for
12 fishing lakes development.

13 e. Protection of identified critical and unique natural
14 and cultural sites.

15 f. Additions to selected existing state parks.

16 2. A recreational facilities maintenance program including,
17 but not limited to:

18 a. Completion of a comprehensive inventory and assessment
19 of physical facilities including their extent, condition,
20 and projected life cycle.

21 b. Development of a centrally based physical facilities
22 management system for scheduled facilities maintenance,
23 repairs, and improvements.

24 3. A recreational facilities enhancement and development
25 program including, but not limited to:

26 a. Renovation and upgrading of facilities at selected
27 existing areas.

28 b. Completion of unfinished major new recreation complexes.

29 c. Completion of planned fish and wildlife project areas.

30 d. Expansion and development of facilities at high-use
31 public areas.

32 4. A new state recreational attractions and user program
33 including, but not limited to:

34 a. Creation of a primitive parks system on existing unde-
35 veloped public natural lands.

1 b. Development of cost-competitive family cabins within
2 state public areas.

3 c. Initiation of a state trails program emphasizing the
4 development of trails and bike routes.

5 d. Initiation of a state rivers recreation program includ-
6 ing the identification and staffing of key rivers and the
7 development of support facilities.

8 e. Development of regional outdoor interpretation centers
9 and associated visitor programs.

10 f. Fuller development of existing natural and cultural
11 attractions for increased visitation and recreation, and
12 educational benefits.

13 5. An outdoor Iowa funding assistance program to provide
14 cost-sharing to counties on a basis of not more than twenty-
15 five percent of the cost coming from the county for land
16 acquisitions and recreational facilities construction, repair
17 and renovation.

18 6. A promotion and marketing program including, but not
19 limited to:

20 a. Development, in cooperation with Iowa development com-
21 mission, of an integrated "outdoor Iowa" promotion program.

22 b. Development of specific marketing packages for selected
23 outdoor activities.

24 c. Development and promotion of additional regional events
25 at state facilities.

26 d. Development of a specific marketing plan to attract
27 Iowans to Iowa's outdoor opportunities and to attract out-
28 of-state visitors to Iowa.

29 EXPLANATION

30 This bill requires the state conservation commission to
31 develop and initiate an Outdoor Iowa Program. The program
32 shall consist of the following: (1) an open space acquisition
33 program, (2) a recreational facilities maintenance program,
34 (3) a recreational facilities enhancement and development
35 program, (4) a new state recreational attractions and user

1 program, (5) an outdoor Iowa funding assistance program, and
2 (6) a promotion and marketing program.

3 This bill becomes effective July 1 following enactment.

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PROPOSED SENATE/HOUSE FILE _____

BY (RECREATION AND IN/STATE
TOURISM STUDY COMMITTEE BILL)

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____

Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____

Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the creation of a public outdoor recreation
2 and resources program, an advisory council, and a county
3 conservation board fund.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 111.79 PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION
2 AND RESOURCES FUND.

3 1. Fifty percent of the funds credited to the public
4 outdoor recreation and resources fund shall be expended on
5 land acquisition and capital improvements in carrying out
6 the provisions of this chapter. Acquisition projects, both
7 fee-simple and less-than-fee, from willing sellers, may be
8 for purposes of establishment or expansion of state parks,
9 public hunting areas, natural areas, public fishing areas,
10 water access sites, trail corridors, and other acquisition
11 projects that are in accord with this chapter. Notwithstanding
12 the exemption provided by section 427.1, land acquired under
13 this subsection is subject to the full consolidated levy of
14 property taxes which shall be paid from revenues available
15 to be expended under this subsection. Capital improvements
16 may be either new developments or rehabilitative in nature.
17 Lake and watershed restoration projects are eligible for
18 funding under this subsection. Not more than fifty percent
19 of the revenues available to be expended under this subsection
20 may be used by the commission to enter into agreements with
21 county conservation boards and county boards of supervisors
22 in those counties without conservation boards to carry out
23 the purposes of this subsection. Revenues available to be
24 expended under this subsection may be used for the matching
25 of federal funds.

26 2. Fifty percent of the funds credited to the public
27 outdoor recreation and resources fund shall be expended on
28 the state recreation tourism grant program. This program
29 shall provide matching grants to cities for purposes of
30 developing or improving recreational projects or tourist
31 attractions. A city may submit an application to the
32 conservation commission for a matching grant. Applications
33 shall be reviewed by the advisory council for the public
34 outdoor recreation and resources fund. The advisory council
35 shall submit recommendations to the conservation commission

1 regarding possible recipients and grant amounts. The amount
2 of the grant shall not exceed fifty percent of the cost of
3 the development or improvement to be made and the application
4 must demonstrate that the city will provide the required
5 matching funds.

6 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 111.80 PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION
7 AND RESOURCES ADVISORY COUNCIL.

8 1. An advisory council for the public outdoor recreation
9 and resources fund is created. The council shall consist
10 of a public member appointed by the governor from each
11 congressional district, the chairperson of the state
12 conservation commission, the director of the state conservation
13 commission, and a designee of the state development commission.
14 No more than three public members shall belong to the same
15 political party. The council shall elect a chairperson
16 annually, and the director of the conservation commission
17 shall serve as council secretary. Persons already serving
18 in an elected or appointed governmental capacity are not
19 eligible to serve as council members.

20 2. The advisory council shall meet annually, in July,
21 and upon the call of the chairperson of the advisory council.
22 The advisory council shall make policy recommendations to
23 the conservation commission regarding the projects and programs
24 to be funded from the public outdoor recreation and resources
25 fund.

26 3. Each county conservation board of those counties which
27 are located in a congressional district shall nominate one
28 person from the congressional district for appointment to
29 the advisory council. The state conservation commission shall
30 compile a list of the nominations of the county conserva-
31 tion boards for each congressional district and shall provide
32 this list to the governor. The governor shall appoint one
33 member from each congressional district from the nominations
34 as provided. Appointments shall be made for three-year terms
35 beginning July 1 in the year of appointment. A person shall

1 not serve more than two consecutive terms. A vacancy shall
2 be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as the
3 original appointment was made.

4 The public members of the advisory council shall be reim-
5 bursed for actual and necessary expenses for each day employed
6 in the official discharge of their duties. The expenses shall
7 be paid from the administration fund of the state conservation
8 commission.

9 Sec. 3. Section 107.17, Code 1983, is amended to read
10 as follows:

11 107.17 FUNDS. The financial resources of ~~said~~ the
12 commission shall consist of ~~three~~ five funds:

- 13 1. A state fish and game protection fund~~7~~.
- 14 2. A state conservation fund~~7~~-and.
- 15 3. An administration fund.
- 16 4. A public outdoor recreation and resources fund.
- 17 5. A county conservation board fund.

18 The state fish and game protection fund, except as otherwise
19 provided, ~~shall consist~~ consists of all moneys accruing from
20 license fees and all other sources of revenue arising under
21 the division of fish and game. Notwithstanding section 453.7,
22 subsection 2, interest or earnings on investments or time
23 deposits of the funds in the state fish and game protection
24 fund and the public outdoor recreation and resources fund
25 shall be credited to ~~the state fish and game protection fund~~
26 those funds respectively.

27 The public outdoor recreation and resources fund and the
28 county conservation board fund consist of all moneys credited
29 to them by law or appropriated to them by the general assembly.

30 The conservation fund, except as otherwise provided, shall
31 consist of all other funds accruing to the conservation
32 commission.

33 The administration fund shall consist of an equitable
34 portion of the gross amount of the ~~two aforesaid funds~~ state
35 fish and game protection fund and the state conservation fund,

1 to be determined by the commission, sufficient to pay the
2 expense of administration entailed by this chapter.

3 All receipts and refunds and reimbursements related to
4 activities funded by the administration fund are appropriated
5 to the administration fund. All refunds and reimbursements
6 relating to activities of the state fish and game protection
7 fund shall be credited to the state fish and game protection
8 fund.

9 Sec. 4. Section 107.19, Code 1983, is amended by adding
10 the following new unnumbered paragraphs:

11 NEW UNNUMBERED PARAGRAPH. Fifty percent of the moneys
12 credited to the public outdoor recreation and resources fund
13 shall be expended solely in carrying out the provisions of
14 chapter 111. These moneys are in addition to the moneys
15 available for those purposes in the state conservation fund.
16 Expenditures of these moneys shall be made only upon the
17 authorization of the general assembly.

18 NEW UNNUMBERED PARAGRAPH. All moneys credited to the
19 county conservation board fund shall be used to provide grants
20 to county conservation boards to provide funding for the
21 purposes of chapter 111A. These grants are in addition to
22 moneys appropriated to the conservation boards from the county
23 boards of supervisors. The grants shall be made to the
24 conservation boards based upon the needs of the boards.
25 Applications shall be made to the conservation commission.

26 Sec. 5. Section 111A.6, Code Supplement 1983, is amended
27 by adding the following new unnumbered paragraph:

28 NEW UNNUMBERED PARAGRAPH. Grants provided by the state
29 conservation commission from its county conservation board
30 fund shall be expended solely for the purposes of carrying
31 out the provisions of this chapter.

32 Sec. 6. In making the initial appointments to the public
33 outdoor recreation and resources advisory council, the governor
34 shall appoint two of the members to initial terms of one year
35 and two of the members to initial terms of two years.

EXPLANATION

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2 This bill establishes a public outdoor recreation and
3 resources fund. The fund is to be used for capital
4 improvements and land acquisition from willing sellers for
5 state parks, public hunting and fishing areas, natural areas,
6 water access sites, trail corridors, and other projects and
7 to provide grants to cities for recreation and tourist
8 projects. An advisory council is established in the state
9 conservation commission to make recommendations on the use
10 of the fund. The fund is subject to appropriation by the
11 general assembly except for the moneys used to provide the
12 grants to cities.

13 Also established is a county conservation board fund.
14 This fund is to be used by the state conservation commission
15 to provide funds, based upon need, to county conservation
16 boards for the purpose of developing and maintaining museums,
17 parks, preserves, and other county recreational facilities.

18 The bill does not provide any moneys for the public outdoor
19 recreation and resources fund or the county conservation board
20 fund.

21 The bill takes effect July 1 following enactment.

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