

to a plan of merger under section 534.511 as to its operations in this state.

Sec. 39. This Act, being deemed of immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

Approved May 29, 1987

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## CHAPTER 172

### STATE PARK ROAD AND CONSERVATION PARKWAY FUNDING

*H.F. 472*

**AN ACT** to authorize the funding of state park road projects and county conservation parkway projects from rise funds.

*Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:*

Section 1. Section 315.6, Code 1987, is amended to read as follows:

#### 315.6 FUNDING OF PROJECTS.

Qualifying projects may be funded as follows:

1. Primary road and state park road projects may be financed entirely by the fund, or by combining money from the fund with money from the primary road fund, federal aid primary funds received by the state, ~~or~~ money from cities or counties raised through the sale of general obligation bonds of the cities or counties, other city or county revenues, or money from participating private parties.

2. Secondary road, state park road, and county conservation parkway projects may be funded entirely by the fund or by combining money from the fund with money from the county's portion of road use tax funds, federal aid secondary funds, other county revenues, ~~or~~ money raised through the sale of general obligation bonds of the county, or money from participating private parties.

3. City street and state park road projects may be funded entirely by the fund, or by combining money from the fund with money from the city's portion of road use tax funds, federal aid urban system funds, other municipal revenues, ~~or~~ money raised through the sale of general obligation bonds of the city, or money from participating private parties.

A county or city may, at its option, apply moneys allocated for use on secondary road or city street projects under section 315.4, subsection 2 or 3, toward qualifying primary road, state park road, and county conservation parkway projects.

Approved June 2, 1987

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## CHAPTER 173

### RECREATION TRAILS

*H.F. 575*

**AN ACT** relating to the acquisition, development, promotion, and management of land for recreation trails.

*Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:*

Section 1. NEW SECTION. 111E.1 STATEMENT OF PURPOSE — INTENT.

The general assembly finds that recreation trails provide a significant benefit for the health and well-being of Iowans and state visitors. Iowa has a national reputation as a place for hiking, walking, and bicycling. The use of recreation trails has a significant influence on Iowa's

economy. Iowa's scenic landscapes, many small communities, and existing natural and transportation corridors are ideally suited for new recreation trails to support recreation and tourism activities such as walking, biking, driving for pleasure, horseback riding, boating and canoeing, skiing, snowmobiling, and others.

The general assembly finds that a program shall be established to acquire, develop, promote, and manage existing and new recreation trails. The objective of a statewide trails program shall be for the state to acquire and develop two thousand miles of new recreation trails and completion of existing trail projects before the year 2000.

**Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 111E.2 STATEWIDE TRAILS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.**

The state department of transportation shall undertake the following programs to meet the objective stated in section 111E.1:

1. Prepare a long-range plan for the acquisition, development, promotion, and management of recreation trails throughout the state. The plan shall identify needs and opportunities for recreation trails of different kinds having national, statewide, regional, and multicounty importance. Recommendations in the plan shall include but not be limited to:

- a. Specific acquisition needs and opportunities for different types of trails.
- b. Development needs including trail surfacing, restrooms, shelters, parking, and other needed facilities.
- c. Promotional programs which will encourage Iowans and state visitors to increase use of trails.
- d. Management activities including maintenance, enforcement of rules, and replacement needs.
- e. Funding levels needed to accomplish the statewide trails objectives.
- f. Ways in which trails can be more fully incorporated with parks, cultural sites, and natural resource sites.

2. The plan shall recommend standards for establishing functional classifications for all types of recreation trails as well as a system for determining jurisdictional control over trails. Levels of jurisdiction may be vested in the state, counties, cities, and private organizations.

3. The state department of transportation may enter into contracts for the preparation of the trails plan. The department shall involve the department of natural resources, the Iowa department of economic development, and the department of cultural affairs in the preparation of the plan. The recommendations and comments of organizations representing different types of trail users and others with interests in this program shall also be incorporated in the preparation of the trails plan and shall be submitted with the plan to the general assembly. The plan shall be submitted to the general assembly no later than January 15, 1988. Existing trail projects involving acquisition or development may receive funding prior to the completion of the trails plan.

The department shall give priority to funding the acquisition and development of trail portions which will complete segments of existing trails. The department shall give preference to the acquisition of trail routes which use existing or abandoned railroad right-of-ways, river valleys, and natural greenbelts. Multiple recreational use of routes for trails, other forms of transportation, utilities, and other uses compatible with trails shall be given priority.

The department may acquire property by negotiated purchase and hold title to property for development of trails. The department may enter into agreements with other state agencies, political subdivisions of the state, and private organizations for the planning, acquisition, development, promotion, management, operations, and maintenance of recreation trails.

The department may adopt rules under chapter 17A to carry out a trails program.

**Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. 111E.3 INVOLVEMENT OF OTHER AGENCIES.**

The department of natural resources, the Iowa department of economic development, and the department of cultural affairs shall assist the state department of transportation in developing the statewide plan for recreation trails, in acquiring property, and in the development, promotion, and management of recreation trails.

**Sec. 4. NEW SECTION. 111E.4 FUNDING.**

To achieve the purposes of this chapter, the state department of transportation, other state agencies, political subdivisions of the state, and private organizations may use funds from the following sources:

1. Funds appropriated by the general assembly.
2. Private grants and gifts.
3. Federal grants and loans intended for these purposes.

Approved June 2, 1987

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**CHAPTER 174**  
**OPEN SPACE LANDS**  
*H.F. 620*

**AN ACT** relating to the acquisition and protection of significant elements of the state's natural open space heritage.

*Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:*

**Section 1. NEW SECTION. 111E.1 STATEMENT OF PURPOSE — INTENT.**

The general assembly finds that:

1. Iowa's most significant open space lands are essential to the well-being and quality of life for Iowans and to the economic viability of the state's recreation and tourism industry.
2. Many areas of high national significance in the state have not received adequate public protection to keep them free of visual blight, resource degradation, and negative impacts from inappropriate land use and surrounding development. Some of these areas include national park service and United States fish and wildlife service properties, national landmarks and trails, the Des Moines river greenbelt, the great river road, areas where interstate highways enter the state, cross major rivers, and pass by other areas of national significance, major state park and recreation areas, unique and protected water areas, and significant natural, geological, scenic, historic, and cultural properties of the state.
3. While state and federal funds are generally available for the acquisition and protection of fish and wildlife areas and habitats as well as boating access to public waters, funding programs for public open space acquisition and protection have not been adequate to meet needs.
4. Relative to other midwestern states, Iowa ranks last in the proportion of land acquired and protected for public open space.
5. A program shall be established to:
  - a. Educate the citizens of the state about the needs and urgency of protecting the state's open spaces.
  - b. Plan for the protection of the state's significant open space areas.
  - c. Acquire and protect those properties on a priority basis through a variety of appropriate means.

In addition to other goals for the program, it is intended that a minimum of ten percent of the state's land area be included under some form of public open space protection by the year 2000.

**Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 111E.2 STATEWIDE OPEN SPACE ACQUISITION AND PROTECTION PROGRAM — OBJECTIVES AND AGENCY DUTIES.**