

FEB 18 1997

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

HOUSE FILE 279
BY DOLECHECK

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act making an appropriation to the department of natural
2 resources for statewide forestry and rural development through
3 forestry projects in cooperation with resource, conservation,
4 and development areas.

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

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HF 279

1 Section 1. There is appropriated from the general fund of
2 the state to the department of natural resources for the
3 fiscal year beginning July 1, 1997, and ending June 30, 1998,
4 the following amount, or so much thereof as is necessary, to
5 be used for the purpose designated:

6 For statewide forestry and rural development through
7 forestry projects in cooperation with resource, conservation,
8 and development areas, as authorized under the federal Food
9 and Agriculture Act of 1962, 16 U.S.C. § 3451-3461, and
10 reauthorized under the federal Food, Agriculture,
11 Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990, 16 U.S.C. § 3459-3461,
12 and to administer the program in cooperation with the United
13 States department of agriculture's natural resources
14 conservation service:

15 \$ 500,000

16 EXPLANATION

17 The 1990 federal farm bill established the rural
18 development through forestry (RDTF) program, 7 U.S.C. § 6601-
19 6617. The program is administered by the United States
20 department of agriculture's forest service and implemented
21 through state forestry agencies. Iowa was designated as a
22 pilot state under the federal RDTF program.

23 Rural development through forestry, as administered by the
24 department of natural resources, provides matching grants to
25 local entities for economic development based on forest
26 resources. In the state of Iowa's pilot program, local
27 projects were identified and carried out primarily through
28 nine resource, conservation, and development (RC&D) areas.

29 RC&D areas are private, not-for-profit corporations that
30 are organized pursuant to chapter 504A of the Code of Iowa.
31 RC&D areas are locally governed by volunteer directors with
32 required representation by the county boards of supervisors,
33 the local soil and water conservation districts, and local
34 people interested in the program. The purpose of RC&D areas
35 is grass-roots directed development of human, economic, and

1 natural resources. RC&D areas were authorized under the
2 federal Food and Agriculture Act of 1962, 16 U.S.C. § 3451-
3 3461, and reauthorized under the federal Food, Agriculture,
4 Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990, 16 U.S.C. § 3459-3461.

5 This bill appropriates \$500,000 from the general fund of
6 the state to the department of natural resources for the
7 fiscal year beginning July 1, 1997, and ending June 30, 1998,
8 for statewide forestry and rural development through forestry
9 projects in cooperation with RC&D areas and to administer the
10 program in cooperation with the United States department of
11 agriculture's natural resources conservation service.

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