

3/18/97 Approp.

FILED MAR 17 1997

SENATE FILE 481  
BY COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS  
AND LABOR

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 314)

Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

A BILL FOR

1 An Act establishing the senior conservation and outdoor  
2 recreation employment program under the administration of the  
3 department of workforce development, providing for a related  
4 matter, and providing an appropriation.

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

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S.F. 481

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

7 For allocation under the senior conservation and outdoor  
8 recreation employment program as provided in section 84A.7A:  
9 ..... \$ 250,000

10 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 84A.7A SENIOR CONSERVATION AND  
11 OUTDOOR RECREATION EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM.

12 1. Subject to an appropriation of sufficient funds by the  
13 general assembly, the senior conservation and outdoor  
14 recreation employment program is established for the  
15 employment of individuals age sixty years or older by county  
16 conservation boards to further conservation efforts, enhance  
17 this state's natural resources, and assist environmental  
18 education and outdoor recreation programs.

19 2. The department of workforce development shall  
20 administer the senior conservation and outdoor recreation  
21 employment program and shall adopt rules governing operation  
22 of the program and eligibility guidelines for county  
23 participation and grant criteria.

24 3. Funds appropriated by the general assembly for each  
25 fiscal year for purposes of this section shall be allocated as  
26 follows:

27 a. Fifty percent of the moneys appropriated shall be  
28 allocated to this state's county conservation boards and  
29 distributed on a per capita basis.

30 b. Fifty percent of the moneys appropriated shall be  
31 awarded on a competitive grant basis. A county conservation  
32 board may apply to the department for a competitive grant on  
33 forms provided by the department. The completed application  
34 shall be accompanied by a plan for the employment of persons  
35 age sixty years or older in meaningful, productive, and

1 healthy public service jobs developed by the county  
2 conservation board. A county conservation board submitting an  
3 application for a competitive grant under this section shall  
4 agree to pay each individual employed under a senior  
5 conservation and outdoor recreation employment program  
6 implemented by the county conservation board a wage that meets  
7 or exceeds the state or federal minimum wage, whichever is  
8 greater. A county applying for a grant under this section is  
9 encouraged to seek additional assistance and resources from  
10 other state departments and agencies, federal agencies and  
11 grant programs, private organizations, and any other person,  
12 as appropriate, in order to match state funds received under  
13 this section.

14 Sec. 3. Section 455A.11, Code 1997, is amended to read as  
15 follows:

16 455A.11 PREFERENCES IN TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT.

17 In its employment of persons in temporary positions in  
18 conservation and outdoor recreation, the department of natural  
19 resources shall give preference to persons meeting eligibility  
20 requirements for the green-thumb senior conservation and  
21 outdoor recreation employment program under section ~~15-227~~  
22 84A.7A and to persons working toward an advanced education in  
23 natural resources and conservation.

24 EXPLANATION

25 This bill establishes, subject to an appropriation of  
26 sufficient funds by the general assembly, the senior  
27 conservation and outdoor recreation employment program for the  
28 employment of individuals age 60 years or older by county  
29 conservation boards to further conservation efforts, enhance  
30 this state's natural resources, and assist environmental  
31 education and outdoor recreation programs. The bill  
32 appropriates \$250,000 for the program.

33 The department of workforce development is responsible for  
34 administering the program and for establishing eligibility  
35 guidelines for county participation and grant criteria.

1 Fifty percent of any funds appropriated by the general  
2 assembly shall be allocated to county conservation boards on a  
3 per capita basis, and 50 percent on a competitive grant basis.

4 A county conservation board applying for a competitive  
5 grant must submit to the department a plan for the employment  
6 of persons age 60 years or older in meaningful, productive,  
7 and healthy public service jobs and must agree to pay each  
8 person employed under the program a wage that meets or exceeds  
9 the state or federal minimum wage, whichever is greater.

10 The bill also directs the department of natural resources  
11 to give employment preference for temporary positions in  
12 conservation and outdoor recreation to persons meeting  
13 eligibility requirements for this program by replacing a  
14 reference to the green thumb program, which no longer exists,  
15 with a reference to the senior conservation and outdoor  
16 recreation employment program.

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