

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4
BY BURNETT

1 A Concurrent Resolution urging the development of
2 programs to provide economic incentives to con-
3 serve endangered ecosystems and species.

4 WHEREAS, Iowa has endangered ecosystems and
5 species; and

6 WHEREAS, programs need to be developed on the
7 premise that provision of a reduction in operating
8 costs and a reliable revenue stream for maintaining
9 and enhancing natural or constructed habitats will
10 offset the economic incentives a landowner might have
11 for converting these habitats to other uses; and

12 WHEREAS, these incentive-driven programs should
13 emphasize the important contributions private
14 landowners can make to habitat enhancement and
15 protection and reward private landowners for acting as
16 responsible stewards of wildlife habitats and other
17 natural resources on their properties; and

18 WHEREAS, the key objective of these programs should
19 be to create new cost-effective and affordable
20 conservation options that will appeal to large numbers
21 of private landowners, as well as to environmental
22 interests and government agencies, and work
23 effectively in providing habitat for threatened and
24 endangered ecosystems and species; and

25 WHEREAS, these conservation options would be based
26 upon sound scientific evidence and be designed to
27 encourage large numbers of landowners to commit to
28 long-term management plans to ensure that essential

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1 habitats are not destroyed due to ever-encroaching
2 urban development or the landowner's perceived need to
3 intensify and expand agricultural and forestry
4 operations for competitive and profitability reasons;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, these conservation options would ensure
7 that essential habitats are well managed so they can
8 maintain their ecological functions in a manner equal
9 to or better than they are today; and

10 WHEREAS, a significant amount of habitat exists
11 today on private land that may never be protected
12 through any other means nor prevented through any law,
13 rule, regulation, or limitation on private property
14 rights from being converted to uses which could
15 destroy most or all of their habitat value; NOW
16 THEREFORE,

17 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE
18 SENATE CONCURRING, That appropriate state agencies and
19 other divisions of government in the state are urged
20 to cooperate in the development of programs designed
21 to provide economic incentives to conserve endangered
22 ecosystems and species as outlined in this Resolution;
23 and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That, upon passage, an
25 official copy of this Resolution shall be sent to the
26 Governor and the Director of the Department of Natural
27 Resources.

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