

FILED MAR 9 1999

SENATE FILE 358
BY CONNOLLY

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

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the establishment of a country schools
2 historical resource preservation grant program to be
3 administered by the historical division of the department of
4 cultural affairs and providing for an appropriation for the
5 program.

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

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SF 358
EDUCATION

1 Section 1. Section 303.16, Code 1999, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 10. a. The general assembly finds that
4 the country school that served Iowa's educational needs for
5 much of its history offered a unique opportunity to students
6 and communities, providing for multigenerational attendance,
7 high educational performance, a safe environment, a focus for
8 community support, and a caring, attentive environment.

9 b. A country schools historical resource preservation
10 grant program is therefore established to be administered by
11 the historical division for the preservation of one-room and
12 two-room buildings once used as country schools. In
13 developing grant approval criteria, the division shall place a
14 priority on the educational uses planned for the country
15 school building, which may include, but are not limited to,
16 historical interpretation and use as a teaching museum or as
17 an operational classroom accessible to a school district or
18 accredited nonpublic school for provisional instructional
19 purposes.

20 c. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section,
21 the amount of a grant shall not exceed twenty-five thousand
22 dollars and applicants shall match grant funding on a dollar-
23 for-dollar basis, of which at least one-half of the local
24 match must be in cash.

25 d. Ten percent of the funds appropriated annually for
26 purposes of this section shall be allocated for purposes of
27 this subsection.

28 EXPLANATION

29 This bill establishes a country schools historical resource
30 preservation grant program to be administered by the
31 historical division for the preservation of one-room and two-
32 room buildings once used as country schools and provides
33 legislative intent.

34 In developing grant approval criteria, the division is
35 directed to place a priority on the educational uses planned

1 for the country school building, which may include, but are
2 not limited to, historical interpretation and use as a
3 teaching museum or as an operational classroom accessible to a
4 school district or accredited nonpublic school for provisional
5 instructional purposes.

6 Grants shall not exceed \$25,000 and applicants shall match
7 grant funding on a \$1-for-\$1 basis, of which at least one-half
8 of the local match must be in cash. The bill allocates 10
9 percent of the historical resource development program's
10 annual appropriation to fund the country schools historical
11 resource preservation grant.

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