

**Senate File 349 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 349  
BY CHELGREN, WHITVER, and  
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(COMPANION TO HF 210)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the identification of historic properties by  
2 certain rural electric cooperatives.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 303.19A Effort required of rural  
2 electric cooperatives receiving federal funding to identify  
3 historic properties.

4 1. When constructing electric distribution and transmission  
5 facilities, a rural electric cooperative receiving federal  
6 funding for the construction shall only be required to conduct  
7 an archeological site survey of its proposed route when, based  
8 upon a review of existing information on historic properties  
9 within the area of potential effects of the construction, it is  
10 determined that a historic property, as defined by the federal  
11 National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, is  
12 likely to exist within the proposed route.

13 2. An archeological site survey required to be conducted by  
14 a rural electric cooperative shall be designed to be no more  
15 arduous than the reasonable and good faith effort required  
16 under the federal National Historic Preservation Act of 1966,  
17 as amended, as interpreted by the advisory council on historic  
18 preservation, shall reflect the public interest, and shall take  
19 into account the likelihood and magnitude of potential impacts  
20 to historic properties and project costs.

21 EXPLANATION

22 The department of cultural affairs is responsible for  
23 administering the Iowa cultural resources survey and  
24 registration program which is to be operated in accordance with  
25 federal law. Site surveys of proposed routes of construction  
26 that have the potential to impact historic properties may be  
27 requested under this program if federal funds are used to  
28 finance the construction.

29 This bill establishes specific standards for surveys  
30 by rural electric cooperatives. The bill requires a rural  
31 electric cooperative to perform a site survey only when a  
32 historic property is likely to exist on the property. The  
33 survey itself must be a reasonable and good faith effort,  
34 balancing the impacts on the historic property and the project  
35 costs.