

House File 481 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 481

BY KELLEY

A BILL FOR

1 An Act establishing a program to promote habitat for

2 pollinators, including honey bees.

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

1 Section 1. Section 160.2, Code 2015, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 4. Cooperate with the department of natural
4 resources in administering the honey bee habitat program as
5 provided in section 461A.91.

6 Sec. 2. Section 457A.1, Code 2015, is amended to read as
7 follows:

8 **457A.1 Acquisition by other than condemnation.**

9 The department of natural resources, soil and water
10 conservation districts as provided in chapter 161A, the
11 historical division of the department of cultural affairs, the
12 state archaeologist appointed by the state board of regents
13 pursuant to section 263B.1, any county conservation board, and
14 any city or agency of a city may acquire by purchase, gift,
15 contract, or other voluntary means, but not by eminent domain,
16 conservation easements in land to preserve scenic beauty,
17 wildlife habitat, riparian lands, wetlands, or forests; promote
18 outdoor recreation, agriculture, soil or water conservation,
19 or open space; provide enhanced honey bee and other pollinator
20 habitat; or otherwise conserve for the benefit of the public
21 the natural beauty, natural and cultural resources, and public
22 recreation facilities of the state.

23 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. **461A.91 Honey bee habitat program.**

24 1. A honey bee habitat program is created within the
25 department.

26 2. The purpose of the program is to support projects to
27 restore and enhance honey bee and other pollinator habitat on
28 land located in state parks, state recreation areas, state game
29 and forest areas, state preserves, and other lands under the
30 jurisdiction of the department.

31 3. In administering the program, the department may do all
32 of the following:

33 a. Evaluate the land to determine its suitability for
34 habitat, the improvement of habitat, and best practices to
35 provide safe and diverse food sources for honey bees and other

