

House File 2255 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2255

BY ISENHART

A BILL FOR

1 An Act creating a state park infrastructure program to support
2 vertical infrastructure projects by the department of
3 natural resources, making appropriations, and including
4 effective date provisions.

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

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 8.57D State park infrastructure
2 program — appropriation.

3 1. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise
4 requires:

5 a. "Department" means the department of natural resources.

6 b. "Infrastructure" means vertical infrastructure as
7 described in section 8.57, subsection 5, paragraph "c".

8 c. "Program" means the state park infrastructure program
9 created in this section.

10 2. A state park infrastructure program is created under the
11 management of the department.

12 3. The purpose of the program is to finance infrastructure
13 projects at existing state parks and other existing public
14 facilities managed by the department. The projects must
15 be for a major renovation or major repair of existing
16 infrastructure or the construction of new infrastructure.
17 However, the department shall not finance the new construction
18 of infrastructure, unless any of the following apply:

19 a. There is an increased demand for the infrastructure.

20 b. It is not cost effective to repair or renovate the
21 existing infrastructure.

22 4. Notwithstanding section 8.57G, subsection 2, there is
23 appropriated from the Iowa coronavirus fiscal recovery fund to
24 the department for each fiscal year of the period beginning
25 July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2023, ten million dollars
26 to support the program. Of the amount appropriated in this
27 section, two million dollars shall be allocated for each of
28 the fiscal years to support the maintenance and restoration of
29 state-owned housing in state parks, state forests, and state
30 preserves to be used for purposes of providing for emergency
31 response capabilities.

32 5. Notwithstanding section 8.33, unencumbered or
33 unobligated moneys appropriated to the department under this
34 section that are remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall
35 not revert but shall remain available for expenditure by the

1 department during the following fiscal year to support the
2 purpose of the program.

3 6. The department shall submit a report to the governor
4 and general assembly not later than January 10 of each year
5 detailing how moneys received by the department to finance
6 completed and ongoing projects described in this section
7 were expended and how moneys expected to be received by the
8 department in future years to finance those projects are
9 planned to be expended.

10 7. This section is repealed July 1, 2023.

11 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of immediate
12 importance, takes effect upon enactment.

13 EXPLANATION

14 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
15 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

16 PROGRAM. This bill creates a state park infrastructure
17 program (program) under the management of the department of
18 natural resources (DNR). The program is to finance certain
19 projects at existing state parks and other existing public
20 facilities managed by DNR. The projects must be for major
21 repairs or major renovations of existing infrastructure
22 unless new construction is justified on the basis of either an
23 increase in demand or that the major repair or renovation would
24 not be cost effective. DNR must submit an annual report to
25 the governor and general assembly detailing past expenditures
26 used to finance completed or ongoing projects and planned
27 expenditures to finance future projects. The program is
28 eliminated on July 1, 2023.

29 IOWA CORONAVIRUS FISCAL RECOVERY FUND — APPROPRIATIONS.
30 The bill appropriates \$10 million from the Iowa coronavirus
31 fiscal recovery fund (Code section 8.57G) to DNR each fiscal
32 year for a two-year period beginning July 1, 2021, and ending
33 June 30, 2023, to support the program. For each of the fiscal
34 years, \$2 million is allocated for state-owned housing in
35 state parks, state forests, and state preserves. As used in

H.F. 2255

1 the bill, infrastructure refers to vertical infrastructure
2 which includes items such as land, structures, utilities, and
3 recreational trails, but excludes operational expenses (Code
4 section 8.57(5)(c)).

5 BACKGROUND. In 2021, the general assembly enacted H.F. 895
6 (2021 Iowa Acts, chapter 172, sections 24 and 25). That Act
7 creates two funds enacted in Code sections 8.57G and 8.57H,
8 under the authority of the office of the governor, consisting
9 of moneys received by the state under the federal American
10 Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for state fiscal recovery and capital
11 projects. The moneys are appropriated to the office of the
12 governor for use in accordance with requirements mirroring the
13 requirements set forth in the ARPA. The provisions creating
14 the funds are repealed July 1, 2025.

15 EFFECTIVE DATE. The bill takes effect upon enactment.