

House File 49 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 49

BY ISENHART

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act providing for the establishment of an environmental
- 2 justice strategy and plan for Iowa, and making
- 3 appropriations.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE STRATEGY AND PLAN —
2 APPROPRIATIONS.

3 1. Notwithstanding section 8.57G, subsection 2, there is
4 appropriated from the Iowa coronavirus fiscal recovery fund
5 created in section 8.57G to the department of human rights
6 for the following fiscal years, the following amounts, or so
7 much thereof as is necessary, to be used for administration
8 of a collaborative effort between human rights commissions
9 described in section 400.2 and local stakeholders to establish
10 relationships between such parties and the department of
11 natural resources; for the establishment of an environmental
12 justice strategy and plan for Iowa that is based on the
13 policies, programs, and initiatives of the United States
14 environmental protection agency; for associated expenses of any
15 employee of the department of human rights and participating
16 human rights commissions in executing these purposes; and for
17 not more than the following full-time equivalent positions:

18	a. FY 2023-2024:		
19	.....	\$	150,000
20	.....	FTEs	1.00
21	b. FY 2024-2025:		
22	.....	\$	150,000
23	.....	FTEs	1.00

24 2. Notwithstanding section 8.33, moneys appropriated in
25 this section that remain unencumbered or unobligated at the
26 close of the fiscal year shall not revert but shall remain
27 available for expenditure for the purposes designated until the
28 close of the succeeding fiscal year.

29 3. For purposes of this section, "environmental justice"
30 means the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of
31 all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or
32 income, with respect to the development, implementation, and
33 enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies,
34 which is achieved when everyone enjoys the same degree of
35 protection from environmental and health hazards and equal

1 access to the decision-making process to have a healthy
2 environment in which to live, learn, and work.

3 EXPLANATION

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

6 This bill appropriates \$150,000 from the Iowa coronavirus
7 fiscal recovery fund for each of fiscal years 2023-2024 and
8 2024-2025 to the department of human rights for administration
9 of a collaborative effort between human rights commissions
10 and local stakeholders to establish relationships between
11 such parties and the department of natural resources; for the
12 establishment of an environmental justice strategy and plan for
13 Iowa that is based on the policies, programs, and initiatives
14 of the U.S. environmental protection agency; for associated
15 expenses of staff and participating human rights commissions in
16 executing such purposes; and for not more than 1.00 full-time
17 equivalent position. The bill defines "environmental justice"
18 for purposes of establishing an environmental justice strategy
19 and plan.