

House File 714 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 714
BY MOMMSEN

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to restrictions on the acquisition of real
2 property by the department of natural resources.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. **461A.10A Restrictions on acquiring**
2 **real property.**

3 1. The department shall not acquire real property available
4 for sale at a public auction for real property. The department
5 shall only acquire real property from a willing donor or willing
6 seller, who shall not be under any compulsion by the department.
7 The department shall not acquire real property for more than
8 appraised value from a nonprofit corporation that directly
9 purchased real property for sale at a public auction.

10 2. Notwithstanding subsection 1, the department may acquire
11 real property available for sale at a public auction or from
12 a nonprofit corporation that acquired the real property at a
13 public auction if the acquisition is in furtherance of a local
14 or statewide conservation or recreation plan and approved by the
15 commission.

16 3. For purposes of this section, "auction" includes but is
17 not limited to an auction by electronic means, an auction by
18 sealed bid, or a conventional oral auction.

19 Sec. 2. Section 461A.11, subsection 1, Code 2025, is amended
20 to read as follows:

21 1. The commission may accept gifts of land or other property,
22 subject to section 461A.10, or the use of lands or other property
23 for a term of years, and improve and use the land as public state
24 parks.

25 EXPLANATION

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

28 This bill restricts the acquisition of real property by the
29 department of natural resources (DNR). The bill prohibits DNR
30 from acquiring real property at a public auction. The bill
31 authorizes DNR to only acquire property through willing donors
32 and sellers, who shall not be under the compulsion of DNR. DNR
33 also shall not acquire property for more than appraised value
34 from a nonprofit corporation that purchased the property at a
35 public auction.

1 The bill provides an exception to the restrictions on the
2 acquisition of land. The bill allows DNR to acquire real
3 property from a public auction or from a nonprofit corporation
4 that acquired the real property at a public auction as long
5 as the acquisition is in furtherance of a local or statewide
6 conservation or recreation plan and is approved by the natural
7 resource commission.

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