

A BILL

FOR AN ACT TO LEGALIZE CERTAIN RECORDS IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

WHEREAS, By act of Congress approved September 28, 1850, there was granted to the State of Iowa all the swamp and overflowed lands in this State and such lands were afterward granted by the General Assembly to the several counties of this State in which they were situated ; and,

WHEREAS, Under the several acts of the General Assembly of this State the several counties selected such lands as enured to the State of Iowa under said grant ; and,

WHEREAS, Prior to the abolition of the office of Register of the State Land Office and pursuant to a joint resolution of the Senate and House of Representatives there was procured from the government records at Washington and made of record in the office of the Register of the State Land Office copies of the selections of such lands as had been made by the several counties as aforesaid and which records now belong to the office of the Secretary of State ; and,

WHEREAS, Aside from such records in the office of the Secretary of State evidence of such selections can only be obtained at Washington, D. C.; and,

WHEREAS, Doubts have arisen as to the legality of such records in said office of the Secretary of State as to their being competent evidence in the courts of this State ; Therefore,

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa :*

SECTION 1. That all copies of the selections of said swamp and overflowed lands by the several counties of this State and now being of record in the office of the Secretary of State are deemed to be legally of record and such records or certified copies thereof may be introduced in evidence in the several courts of this State with the same effect as original selections regularly made and reported and so recognized by the proper officers of the Interior Department.