

Reported Recommending
Ind. Postponed
Passed House
Failed to Pass House
Passed Senate
Failed to Pass Senate

House File 388

February 26, 1947.
Appropriation.

By FISH AND GAME.

A BILL FOR

An Act to permit the state conservation commission to restore Goose Lake, Greene County, Iowa, and to acquire such lands and rights as are necessary to return same to a suitable wild life area and providing an appropriation therefor.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

1 Section 1. Permission is hereby granted the state
2 conservation commission to restore the meandered lake known
3 as Goose Lake in Greene County, Iowa, and to acquire in the
4 name of the state, additional lands and rights, as are
5 necessary to return same to a suitable wild life area.

1 Sec. 2. The state conservation commission is empowered
2 and directed to pay the necessary expenses incurred in said
3 restoration from funds hereby appropriated therefor.

1 Sec. 3. There is hereby appropriated out of the
2 general fund of the state, not otherwise appropriated,
3 to the state conservation commission the sum of thirty
4 thousand (\$30,000.00) Dollars or so much thereof as may be
5 necessary, for the use of said commission for the restoration
6 of said lake.

EXPLANATION OF H. F. 388

Provisions for the drainage of Goose Lake, lying 7 miles north of Jefferson in Greene County were enacted by the 38th General Assembly, in 1919. This was enacted in spite of the fact that at the time a petition of 15,000 names were filed against it.

A drainage district of 823 acres was established of which the state owns 461.61 acres. Draining was eminently unsuccessful and the State has paid out not less than \$91,605.25 in drainage assessments against the area owned by the state within the district. Its drainage, in the first place was held by many to be a promotion scheme of the first order. It has been one of the finest wild fowl areas in the state of Iowa.

Mr. H. M. Marker in a letter to O. D. Steele, dated at Jefferson, Iowa, on December 8, 1944 states in part; "The drainage of the lake was a sacrilege, and it has been well and truly branded by the sportsmen of the state of Iowa as 'the blackest spot in Iowa history'."

This bill proposes to reestablish Goose Lake as a wild fowl area by buying up the balance of the required land in the district (approximately 261 acres) and plugging the outlet on the east side, at a cost of approximately \$30,000.