

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

House File 479

February 27, 1947.
Roads and Highways.

By LUNDY.

A BILL FOR

An Act to amend section three hundred ten point eleven (310.11), Code 1946, to prevent the neglect of roads forming the boundary between two (2) counties and to require the counties to designate a fair proportion of each road as farm-to-market roads.

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

1 Section 1. Section three hundred ten point eleven (310.11),
2 Code, 1946, is amended by striking the period at the end of said
3 section and inserting in lieu thereof the following:
4 "The Board of Supervisors of the counties on either side
5 of a road forming the boundary between two (2) counties shall
6 jointly submit to the highway commission at the time they submit
7 each of their project statements as required by this section, a
8 joint project statement for the construction, reconstruction,
9 or improvement of roads forming the boundary between two (2)
10 counties. Such statement shall provide one (1) mile of such
11 boundary road as a farm-to-market road to each ten (10) miles of
12 farm-to-market road submitted during that year by both or either
13 of said counties, and that no project for the construction,
14 reconstruction or improvement of farm-to-market roads submitted
15 by either county shall be approved by the state highway commission

16 or certified for an allotment of the farm-to-market road fund until
17 and unless said counties submit for construction as farm-to-market
18 roads and in good faith construct one mile of road forming the
19 boundary between two (2) counties for each ten (10) miles of other
20 farm-to-market roads constructed that year in each and both of said
21 counties. One (1) mile of road forming the boundary between two (2)
22 counties shall thus be constructed for each ten (10) miles of
23 the total construction in both counties.

EXPLANATION OF H. F. 479

Most county line roads in Iowa are orphans and neglected by both counties. Their appearance is a disgrace to a prosperous state like Iowa, and they are unfair to the property owners who pay taxes along the roads, first because they are taxed for something they do not get, and second because their farms are difficult to rent or sell, because with other roads improved a good tenant or buyer will not accept a farm on a county line road, thus the owner may not only pay for something he doesn't get, but he is paying the state to aid his competitor.

County line roads are usually the greatest distance from the county seat. They are the most lucrative source of expense to the county for the benefit of the mileage charge for the supervisors. That is one reason they never get fixed. Another reason is that each county lays the blame on the other and nothing gets done. The enactment of this bill into law will alleviate such situations.