ENROLLED

HOUSE BILL No. 421

(By Mr. Booth)

PASSED March 13, 1953

In Effect Twenty days from Passage
AN ACT to amend and reenact section one, article eight, chapter twenty of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as last amended, relating to the authority of the director of conservation to acquire lands for conservation purposes and to maintain and develop lands so acquired to further these purposes.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That section one, article eight, chapter twenty of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as last amended, be amended and reenacted as follows:

Section 1. Acquisition of Suitable Lands by Director;

2 Maintenance Thereof as State Forests or Game and Fish Refuges.—The director may with the consent of the governor purchase, in the name of the state, out of funds set aside for the purpose, or out of any unused funds in his
hands, lands suitable for forest culture; state forests; fish
refuges; game refuges or public shooting grounds: Pro-
vided, That such funds may also be used for the construc-
tion of dams for fish refuges on lands so acquired. Pur-
case may be made on terms requiring not less than one-
third of the purchase price to be paid at the time of the
conveyance with the residue to be paid in not less than
one or two years after date. Without the consent of the
governor not more than five dollars per acre shall be paid
for lands to be used as game refuges and public shooting
grounds. The director may also receive the gift of such
lands by deed or bequest. In all cases of transfers to the
state, the fee simple title shall pass to the state, except
minerals and mining rights to remove such minerals may
be excepted or reserved.

The director shall protect, preserve and maintain lands
so acquired as state forests, game or fish refuges or public
shooting grounds, for the propagation and distribution of
forest trees and for the protection, propagation and distri-
bution of the fish, wild animals, and birds thereon. He
may prescribe and enforce rules and regulations consistent
with the laws of the state, to carry out that objective. The
director may prescribe and enforce rules prohibiting all
fishing and hunting, pursuing, catching, trapping, captur-
ing and killing of fish, wild animals and birds upon such
state forests, and game and fish refuges, for such length
of time as he may deem proper.
The director may provide special regulations and open
seasons for the taking of any wild birds, wild animals or
fish on such lands in the manner provided by article three,
section eight of this chapter.
The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

[Signatures]

Chairman Senate Committee

Chairman House Committee

Originated in the House of Delegates

Takes effect thirty days from passage.

[Signatures]

Clerk of the Senate

Clerk of the House of Delegates

President of the Senate

Speaker House of Delegates

The within appeared this the 20th day of March, 1953.

[Signature]

Governor

[Stamp] MAR 20, 1953

D. Pitt O'Brien,
Secretary of State