

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 1953



ENROLLED

HOUSE BILL No. 421

(By Mr. Booth)



PASSED March 13, 1953

In Effect immediately after Passage



421

ENROLLED

House Bill No. 421

(By MR. BOOTH)

[Passed March 13, 1953; in effect ninety 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*
3 *Refuges.*—The director may with the consent of the gov-
4 ernor purchase, in the name of the state, out of funds set
5 aside for the purpose, or out of any unused funds in his

6 hands, lands suitable for forest culture; state forests; fish
7 refuges; game refuges or public shooting grounds: *Pro-*
8 *vided*, That such funds may also be used for the construc-
9 tion of dams for fish refuges on lands so acquired. Pur-
10 case may be made on terms requiring not less than one-
11 third of the purchase price to be paid at the time of the
12 conveyance with the residue to be paid in not less than
13 one or two years after date. Without the consent of the
14 governor not more than five dollars per acre shall be paid
15 for lands to be used as game refuges and public shooting
16 grounds. The director may also receive the gift of such
17 lands by deed or bequest. In all cases of transfers to the
18 state, the fee simple title shall pass to the state, except
19 minerals and mining rights to remove such minerals may
20 be excepted or reserved.

21 The director shall protect, preserve and maintain lands
22 so acquired as state forests, game or fish refuges or public
23 shooting grounds, for the propagation and distribution of
24 forest trees and for the protection, propagation and distri-
25 bution of the fish, wild animals, and birds thereon. He
26 may prescribe and enforce rules and regulations consistent

27 with the laws of the state, to carry out that objective. The
28 director may prescribe and enforce rules prohibiting all
29 fishing and hunting, pursuing, catching, trapping, captur-
30 ing and killing of fish, wild animals and birds upon such
31 state forests, and game and fish refuges, for such length
32 of time as he may deem proper.

33 The director may provide special regulations and open
34 seasons for the taking of any wild birds, wild animals or
35 fish on such lands in the manner provided by article three,
36 section eight of this chapter.

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

H. M. Kinley
Chairman Senate Committee

C. H. Mueller
Chairman House Committee

Originated in the House of Delegates

Takes effect *twenty days from* passage.

Howard Meyer
Clerk of the Senate

[Signature]
Clerk of the House of Delegates

Ralph Keen
President of the Senate

W. E. Flannery
Speaker House of Delegates

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

William C. Marland
Governor



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D. MITT O'BRIEN,
SECRETARY OF STATE