WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 1977

ENROLLED

SENATE BILL NO. 479

(By Mr. [Signature])

PASSED April 9, 1977
In Effect July 1, 1977
ENROLLED
Senate Bill No. 479
(By MR. SUSMAN and MR. GAINER)

[Passed April 9, 1977; in effect July 1, 1977.]

AN ACT to amend article one, chapter twenty of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated section twenty, relating to limitations on acquisition of land for state recreational facilities; limitations on construction of state recreational facilities; legislative findings and purpose; and exceptions to limitations.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:
That article one, chapter twenty of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new section, designated section twenty, to read as follows:

ARTICLE 1. ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION.

§20-1-20. Limitations on acquisition of land for state recreational facilities; limitations on construction of state recreational facilities; legislative findings and purpose; exceptions to limitations.

1 The Legislature finds that the acquisition of land to construct new or to expand existing state recreational facilities is becoming more costly. Also, the Legislature finds that the construction of new or the expansion of existing state recreational facilities is becoming more costly. After such facilities are constructed, they must be maintained indefinitely and, in many instances, personnel must be employed to operate the facilities. This necessitates and places a continuing burden on state revenues. Furthermore, these costs are also increasing continually. The Legislature hereby declares that there is
an ultimate limit to how many recreational facilities this
state, with its size, population and financial resources can
or should support. Further, the Legislature hereby de-
clares that it must establish, provide for, and maintain,
limits on state recreational facilities. The Legislature
hereby declares that is the purpose of this section.
After the effective date of this section, neither the
director, nor any other officer, or employee, or agent of
the department of natural resources may, without the
express authorization of the Legislature:
(1) Acquire, or authorize the acquisition of, land for
any new state park, forest, public fishing and hunting
area, or other recreational facility; or
(2) Construct, or authorize the construction of, any
new facility or building in any state park, forest, public
hunting and fishing area, or other recreational facility.
Nothing in this section shall prohibit the director from
expending any appropriations made on or before the
effective date of this section to the department of natural
resources for the purposes for which such appropriations
were designated, including the acquisition of land or the
construction of facilities or buildings.
Nothing in this section shall prohibit the director from
expending any appropriations made at any time which
are designated to complete land acquisitions for state
parks, forests, public hunting and fishing areas, or other
recreational areas, which are in existence on the effective
date of this section. Nothing in this section shall prohibit
the director from expending any appropriation made at
any time which is designated to complete the construc-
tion of facilities and buildings, including electric, water
and sewage systems for state parks, forests, public hunt-
ing and fishing areas, or other recreational areas, which
are in existence on the effective date of this section.
The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

James D. Davis  
Chairman Senate Committee

Chairman House Committee

Originated in the Senate.

To take effect July 1, 1977.

J. W. Williams, Jr.  
Clerk of the Senate

W. Blandings  
Clerk of the House of Delegates

H. B. Richardson  
President of the Senate

Donald L. Hoop  
Speaker House of Delegates

The within is approved this the 24

day of April, 1977.

Governor