



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

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LANDTOWNSHIP CONVEYANCE

Senate Bill 166 with House committee amendments
First Analysis (10-12-89)

RECEIVED

Sponsor: Sen. Connie Binsfield
Senate Committee: State Affairs, Tourism, and
Transportation
House Committee: State Affairs

NOV 16 1989

Mich. State Law Lib

THE APPARENT PROBLEM:

The state currently owns 2.8 acres of land in Leland Township that were acquired by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) during the 1940s for use as boating access sites to Lake Leelanau. However, boat sizes have increased dramatically since the 1940s, and recent evaluations by the department's Recreation Division have found that the shallow water conditions at the sites are better suited for recreation activities such as swimming and picnicking rather than for boating activities. It is impractical for the state to purchase additional land to enhance the sites because both are bordered by cottages and a township park. In addition, the department recently purchased a 12 acre access site near the Village of Lake Leelanau to accommodate boats of all sizes. Therefore, it has been suggested that the 2.8 acres be incorporated into existing township parks for public recreation purposes.

THE CONTENT OF THE BILL:

The bill would allow the DNR to transfer two parcels of land totaling 2.8 acres to Leland Township for \$1. The land would be used for public park purposes and the park would be open to all residents of the state on the same terms. If the land were no longer used for public parks, or if it were used for other purposes, the land would revert immediately to the state. Rights to coal, oil, gas, and other minerals from the parcels would be reserved to the state. Revenue from the conveyance would be credited to the general fund.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ACTION:

The House State Affairs Committee amended the bill to require that the conveyed park land be open to all state residents on the same terms.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

Currently, the Department of Natural Resources makes an annual payment of \$2,213.94 to Leland Township for the two parcels of land. If the land is conveyed, the department would not be required to make this annual payment. (10-11-89)

ARGUMENTS:

For:

Since the DNR has already purchased a larger access site on Lake Leelanau to accommodate modern boats, these smaller sites are no longer needed. The bill will enable Leland Township to make better use of the two parcels by incorporating them into the existing public recreation areas in the township's parks.

POSITIONS:

The Department of Natural Resources supports the bill.
(10-11-89)

Leland Township supports the bill. (10-11-89)

S.D. 100 (10-12-89)