



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

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TRANSFER OF STATE LAND TO CLARE COUNTY

House Bill 4446 as introduced
First Analysis (4-28-87)

RECEIVED

Sponsor: Rep. Sidney Ouwinga
Committee: State Affairs

MAY 13 1987

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THE APPARENT PROBLEM:

Redding Township requests the transfer of three acres of the AuSable State Forest located in western Clare County. The vacant three acres requested by the township to expand its cemetery are located 20 miles northwest of the City of Clare, immediately east of the existing township cemetery. Currently, the cemetery does not have any vacant grave sites. Transfer of the three acre site through a public use deed is not possible because the state acquired the land by purchase in 1949. Thus, special legislation is needed to complete the land transfer.

THE CONTENT OF THE BILL:

The bill would authorize the Department of Natural Resources to convey certain state-owned property to Redding Township in Clare County for \$1.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:

According to the House Fiscal Agency, the bill would have no fiscal implications to the state. (4-20-87)

ARGUMENTS:

For:

The township cemetery presently does not have any empty grave sites; therefore, expansion is necessary. However, due to residential development on surrounding sides of the cemetery, the cemetery can only be expanded to adjacent state land. The bill would allow the township to expand the cemetery to add the extra space that it needed.

For:

The Department of Natural Resources does not have the authority to give away land that has been purchased by the state to local units of government. Because the state purchased the land adjacent to the cemetery in 1949, special legislation is necessary in order to allow the DNR to transfer the land to Redding township. The bill would enable the department to transfer the land to Redding township with negligible costs to the township.

POSITIONS:

The Department of Natural Resources supports the bill. (4-20-87)

Redding Township supports the bill. (4-21-87)

H.B. 4446 (4-28-87)