96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2009 and 2010

HB2701

Introduced 2/24/2009, by Rep. Tom Cross

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

525 ILCS 33/5

Amends the Illinois Open Land Trust Act. Makes a technical change in a Section concerning the legislative policy of the Act.

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A BILL FOR

HB2701

1

AN ACT concerning conservation.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, 3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The Illinois Open Land Trust Act is amended by 5 changing Section 5 as follows:

6 (525 ILCS 33/5)

7 Sec. 5. Policy.

8 (a) <u>The</u> The provision of lands for the conservation of 9 natural resources and public recreation promote the public 10 health, prosperity, and general welfare and are proper 11 responsibilities of State government.

12 (b) Lands now dedicated to these purposes are not adequate 13 to protect the quality of life and meet the needs of an 14 expanding population.

15 (c) Natural areas, wetlands, forests, prairies, open 16 spaces, and greenways provide critical habitat for fish and 17 wildlife and are in need of protection.

(d) The opportunity to acquire lands that are available and
appropriate for these purposes will gradually disappear as
their cost correspondingly increases.

(e) It is desirable to encourage partnerships among
federal, State, and local governments and not-for-profit
corporations for the acquisition of land for conservation and

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1 recreation purposes.

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2 (f) It is necessary and desirable to provide assistance in 3 the form of grants and loans to units of local government to 4 acquire lands that have significant conservation and 5 recreation attributes.

6 (Source: P.A. 91-220, eff. 7-21-99.)