

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  
5 by changing Section 5 as follows:

6 (525 ILCS 33/5)

7 Sec. 5. Legislative policy. ~~Policy.~~

8 (a) 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  
13 adequate to protect the quality of life and meet the needs of  
14 an 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.

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

21 (e) It is desirable to encourage partnerships among  
22 federal, State, and local governments and not-for-profit  
23 corporations for the acquisition of land for conservation and  
24 recreation purposes.

25 (f) It is necessary and desirable to provide assistance  
26 in the form of grants and loans to units of local government  
27 to acquire lands that have significant conservation and  
28 recreation attributes.

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