Public Law 96–612
96th Congress

An Act

To provide for the establishment of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the establishment of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, and for other purposes", approved November 5, 1966 (80 Stat. 1309), as amended (16 U.S.C. 460u), is further amended as follows:

(1) A new section is added at the end thereof to read as follows:

"SEC. 20. (a) The Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore is hereby dedicated to the memory of Paul H. Douglas in grateful recognition of his leadership in the effort to protect, preserve, and enhance the natural, scientific, historic, and recreational value of the lakeshore for the use, enjoyment, and edification of present and future generations.

(b) To further accomplish the purposes of subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary of the Interior shall designate the west unit of the lakeshore as the 'Paul H. Douglas Ecological and Recreational Unit' and shall, subject to appropriations being granted, design and construct a suitable structure or designate an existing structure within the lakeshore to be known as the 'Paul H. Douglas Center for Environmental Education' which shall provide facilities designed primarily to familiarize students and other visitors with, among other things: (1) the natural history of the lakeshore and its association with the natural history of the Great Lakes region; (2) the evolution of human activities in the area; and (3) the historical features which led to the establishment of the lakeshore by the Congress of the United States.

(c) To inform the public of the contributions of Paul H. Douglas to the creation of the lakeshore, the Secretary of the Interior shall provide such signs, markers, maps, interpretive materials, literature, and programs as he deems appropriate."

(2) Section 1 of the Act is amended by changing “September 1976 and bearing the number 626–91007” to “December 1980, and bearing the number 626–91014”.

(3) Section 2(a) of the Act is amended by adding the following new sentence at the end thereof: "The Secretary is expressly authorized to acquire by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, or exchange, lands or interests therein which are owned for school or educational purposes by a State or a political subdivision thereof."

(4) Section 2(b) of the Act is amended by changing the phrase "section 10" to "section 9".

(5) In the first sentence of section 4 of the Act, preceding the word "February" insert: "January 1, 1981 or, in the case of improved property located within the boundaries delineated on a map identified as 'Boundary Map, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, amendment.'"
Lakeshore', dated September 1976 and bearing the number 626-91007, before'.

(6) The first sentence of section 5(a) of the Act is amended to read as follows: "Except for owners of improved property within the area on the map referred to in the first section of this Act as area II-B, any owner or owners of record of improved property may retain a right of use and occupancy of said improved property for noncommercial residential purposes for a term (1) ending on his or her death or the death of his or her spouse, whichever occurs last, or (2) for a fixed term not to extend beyond September 30, 2010, or such lesser term as the owner or owners may elect at the time of acquisition by the Secretary: Provided, That the retention of a retained right under clause numbered (1) shall only be available to homeowners of record as of October 1, 1980, who have attained the age of majority as of that date and make a bona fide written offer not later than October 1, 1985, to sell to the Secretary.".

(7) Section 5 of the Act is amended by adding a new subsection (c) as follows:

"(c) With respect to improved properties acquired prior to the enactment of this subsection and upon which a valid existing right of use and occupancy has been reserved for a term of not more than twenty years, the Secretary may, in his discretion, extend the term of such retained right for a period of not more than nine years upon receipt of payment prior to September 30, 1983, from the holder of the retained right. The amount of such payment shall be equivalent to the amount discounted from the purchase price paid by the Secretary for the identical period of time under the terms of the original sale adjusted by a general index adopted by the Secretary reflecting overall value trends within Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore between the time of the original sale and the time of the retained right of extension offered by this subsection.".

(8) Section 7(a) of the Act is amended by changing "ten years after the date of establishment of the national lakeshore pursuant to this Act" to "on September 30, 1985".

(9) Section 7(b) of the Act is amended as follows:

(A) by striking out "eleven members" and inserting in lieu thereof "thirteen members";

(B) by striking out "one member who is a year-round resident" in clause (4) and inserting in lieu thereof "two members who are year-round residents"; and

(C) by striking out "one member who is a year-round resident" in clause (7) and inserting in lieu thereof "two members who are year-round residents".

(10) Section 9 of the Act is amended as follows:

(A) in the first sentence, change "$9,440,000 for development" to "$11,000,000 for development: Provided, That not more than $500,000 of said amount may be appropriated for the development of the Paul H. Douglas Environmental Education Center authorized pursuant to section 20 of this Act."; and

(B) at the end thereof, add a new paragraph as follows: "In addition to any sums heretofore authorized for the acquisition of lands and interests in lands pursuant to the provisions of this Act, there are further authorized to be appropriated an additional $3,120,000."

(11) A new section 21 is added to the Act as follows:
"Sec. 21. (a) The Secretary in consultation with the Secretary of Transportation, shall conduct a study of various modes of public access into and within the lakeshore which are consistent with the preservation of the lakeshore and conservation of energy by encouraging the use of transportation modes other than personal motor vehicles.

(b) In carrying out the study, the Secretary shall utilize to the greatest extent practicable the resources and facilities of the organizations designated as clearinghouses under title IV of the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act of 1968 as implemented by Office of Management and Budget Circular A-95, and which have comprehensive planning responsibilities in the regions where the lakeshore is located, as well as any other agencies or organizations which the Secretary may designate. The Secretary shall make provision for timely and substantive consultations with the appropriate agencies of the States of Indiana and Illinois, local elected officials, and the general public in the formulation and implementation of the study.

(c) The study shall address the adequacy of access facilities for members of the public who desire to visit and enjoy the lakeshore. Consideration shall be given to alternatives for alleviating the dependence on automobile transportation. The study of public transportation facilities shall cover the distance from cities of thirty-five thousand population or more within fifty miles of the lakeshore.

(d) The study shall include proposals deemed necessary to assure equitable visitor access and public enjoyment by all segments of the population, including those who are physically or economically disadvantaged. It shall provide for retention of the natural, scenic, and historic values for which the lakeshore was established, and shall propose plans and alternatives for the protection and maintenance of these values as they relate to transportation improvements.

(e) The study shall examine proposals for the renovation and preservation of a portion of the existing South Shore Railroad passenger car fleet. The study shall consider the historic value of the existing rolling stock and its role in transporting visitors into and within the lakeshore.

(f) The study shall present alternative plans to improve, construct, and extend access roads, public transportation, and bicycle and pedestrian trails. It shall include cost estimates of all plans considered in this study, and shall discuss existing and proposed sources of funding for the implementation of the recommended plan alternatives.

(g) The study shall be completed and presented to the Congress within two complete fiscal years from the effective date of this provision.

(h) Effective October 1, 1981, there is hereby authorized to be appropriated not to exceed $200,000 for this study.

(12) A new section 22 is added to the Act as follows:

"Sec. 22. In exercising his authority to acquire property under this Act, the Secretary shall give prompt and careful consideration to any offer made by an individual owning property within the lakeshore to sell such property, if such individual notifies the Secretary in writing that the continued ownership of such property is causing, or would result in, undue hardship.

(13) A new section 23 is added to the Act as follows:

"Sec. 23. (a) The Secretary may acquire only such interest in that portion of area VII-A which is described in subsection (b) as the Secretary determines is necessary to assure public access over said portion of area VII-A.
“(b) The portion of area VII-A, as designated on the map referred to in section 1, to which subsection (a) applies is a parcel of land bounded—

“(1) on the east by a line three hundred feet east of the electrical transmission line crossing area VII-A on January 1, 1979;

“(2) on the west by a line fifty feet west of such electrical transmission line; and

“(3) on the north and south by the northern and southern boundaries, respectively, of area VII-A.

“(c) Area VII-A includes the bed of the railroad tracks forming the northern and northwestern boundaries of this area and extends to the northern edge of the bed of the railroad tracks forming the southern boundaries of this area.

“(d) Area I-D includes the bed of the railroad tracks along the northern boundary of this area.

“(e) The area designated as area VII-C on the map referred to in section 1 does not include approximately 1.3 acres of land on which the Linde Air Products plant is situated, nor does it include approximately 1 acre of land on which the Old Union Station building and the adjacent REA building are situated. Except as provided in the foregoing sentence, area VII-C extends to, but does not include, the beds of the railroad tracks forming the northern and southern boundaries of such area.”

Sec. 2. Authorizations of moneys to be appropriated under this Act shall be effective on October 1, 1981. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, authority to enter into contracts, to incur obligations, or to make payments under this Act shall be effective only to the extent, and in such amounts, as are provided in advance in appropriation Acts.

Approved December 28, 1980.