

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 591

To authorize a feasibility study for the preservation of the Loess Hills in western Iowa.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 11, 1999

Mr. GRASSLEY introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To authorize a feasibility study for the preservation of the Loess Hills in western Iowa.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

4       (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

5               (1) the Loess Hills spread across 600,000 acres  
6       of land in Fremont, Harrison, Mills, Monona, Plym-  
7       outh, Pottawattamie, and Woodbury counties in  
8       western Iowa;

1           (2) soil deposited by wind over many centuries  
2           formed the Loess Hills, which support several spe-  
3           cies of rare native prairie grass;

4           (3) the Loess Hills and 1 other similar forma-  
5           tion in China are the only 2 formations of their kind  
6           in the world; and

7           (4) the Loess Hills are rare and valuable natu-  
8           ral formations of the State of Iowa and of the  
9           United States.

10          (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to author-  
11          ize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a feasibility  
12          study to determine what measures should be taken to pre-  
13          serve the Loess Hills in western Iowa.

14          **SEC. 2. FEASIBILITY STUDY.**

15          (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the  
16          date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior  
17          shall conduct a study to determine what measures may  
18          be taken to preserve the Loess Hills in western Iowa.

19          (b) CONSULTATION.—In completing the study under  
20          subsection (a), the Secretary shall consult with representa-  
21          tives of—

22                  (1) State and local agencies;

23                  (2) nonprofit groups; and

24                  (3) other interested parties.

1           (c) REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the com-  
2 pletion of the study under subsection (a), the Secretary  
3 shall submit a report describing the results of the study  
4 to—

5           (1) the Committee on Energy and Natural Re-  
6 sources of the Senate; and

7           (2) the Committee on Resources of the House  
8 of Representatives.

9 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

10          There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
11 this Act \$275,000.

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