

CHAPTER 247 (HJR 61)

A JOINT RESOLUTION authorizing and directing the University of Kentucky, the Bluegrass Area Development District, and the Lake Cumberland Area Development District to conduct a study relating to the feasibility of establishing a state park and the cost of constructing state lodges at Lake Herrington and at General Burnside Island State Park.

WHEREAS, Lake Herrington, stretching across portions of Mercer, Garrard, and Boyle Counties, was created in the 1920's by damming up the Dix River. The lake is 3600 acres, 32 miles long and almost 400 feet deep; and

WHEREAS; General Burnside State Park is a 430-acre island surrounded by 50,250-acre Lake Cumberland, named for the sideburn-whiskered Civil War general Ambrose Burnside and has the unique distinction of being the only island park in the Kentucky State Park's system; and

WHEREAS, Lake Herrington and General Burnside Island are outstanding and untapped natural resources in the state of Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, the natural resources and beauty found in the Lake Herrington and General Burnside Island areas are unique treasures in the Commonwealth and should be shared and celebrated by all citizens of the state; and

WHEREAS, there is potential for tourism in the counties of Jessamine, Mercer, Garrard, and Boyle Counties in the Lake Herrington area because not only of the lake but also cultural, historical, recreational, and other events in Danville, Harrodsburg, and other nearby communities; and

WHEREAS, there is also potential for additional tourism in the General Burnside Island area of Lake Cumberland, Pulaski and Wayne Counties and the city of Burnside and surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly needs information on the feasibility and cost of establishing Lake Herrington as a Kentucky State Park and constructing state park lodges at Lake Herrington and General Burnside Island State Park in order to objectively and responsibly determine whether to proceed;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

Section 1. The University of Kentucky, jointly with the Bluegrass Area Development District and the Lake Cumberland Area Development District shall conduct a comprehensive study of:

(1) The feasibility and cost of purchasing land and establishing a new state park at Lake Herrington;

(2) The feasibility and cost of constructing a state park lodge at Lake Herrington;

(3) The feasibility and cost of constructing a state park lodge at General Burnside Island State Park;

(4) The feasibility and cost of constructing a state park lodge at Nolin State Park; and

(5) The feasibility and cost of purchasing land and establishing a state park in the Barren River Area Development District.

Section 2. The study shall begin not later than August 1, 2000, and the report and recommendations shall be submitted to the Interim Joint Committee on Economic Development and Tourism not later than the interim committee's regularly scheduled meeting in September, 2001.

Approved March 29, 2000