



TERRY E. BRANSTAD
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

KIM REYNOLDS
LT. GOVERNOR

May 27, 2016

The Honorable Paul Pate
Secretary of State of Iowa
State Capitol
LOCAL

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I hereby transmit House File 2454, an Act relating to and making appropriations involving state government entities involved with agriculture, natural resources, and environmental protection, and including effective date provisions.

House File 2454 is approved on this date with the following exception, of which I hereby disapprove. I am unable to approve of the item designated as Section 24 of this Act in its entirety. This item requires the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to conduct a study on the feasibility of installing electronic card reader systems and imposing user fees at state parks. This section is unnecessary because there is nothing that currently prevents the DNR from studying the feasibility of using electronic card reader systems at state parks. However, I do not support charging Iowans a user fee to enjoy our state parks. In the 1980s, the State of Iowa charged state park user fees and found that Iowans greatly disliked them. We should not be conducting studies on state park user fees when history already tells us that such fees would be unpopular with, and rejected by, the people of this State.

For the above reasons, I respectfully disapprove the above-designated item in accordance with Amendment IV of the Amendments of 1968 to the Constitution of the State of Iowa. All other items in House File 2454 are hereby approved as of this date.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terry E. Branstad".

TERRY E. BRANSTAD
Governor