

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 1. Findings. The State of Illinois finds that:

5 (1) rapid land development in Illinois has led to the loss  
6 of forestlands, farmlands, wildlife habitats, biodiversity,  
7 outstanding natural areas, beaches, and public areas for  
8 outdoor recreation and has impacted the health of the State's  
9 lakes, streams, rivers, and wetlands, all of which impacts the  
10 quality of life of the State's current and future citizens and  
11 may jeopardize the well-being of the State's environment and  
12 economy if not addressed appropriately;

13 (2) this same rapid land development has also led to the  
14 loss of historical and archaeological sites that embody the  
15 heritage of the State;

16 (3) this same rapid land development is occurring across  
17 the United States and across the world;

18 (4) scientists have documented this rapid loss of natural  
19 area and wildlife, including the loss of 1,500,000 acres of  
20 natural area in the United States per year; the loss of  
21 2,900,000,000, or twenty-nine percent of, North American birds  
22 since 1970; threats to approximately 12,000 plant and animal  
23 species in the United States, all of which are in need of  
24 proactive conservation efforts; and the loss of one-half of

1 freshwater and saltwater wetlands in the contiguous  
2 forty-eight states;

3 (5) scientists have recommended conserving and protecting  
4 thirty percent of the land and thirty percent of the ocean in  
5 each country by 2030 in order to address this deterioration of  
6 natural systems, loss of biodiversity, and rapid land  
7 development;

8 (6) national leaders have introduced measures to commit  
9 the United States to protecting thirty percent of its lands  
10 and oceans by 2030; and

11 (7) in order to support national efforts and provide state  
12 leadership to address the deterioration of natural systems,  
13 loss of biodiversity, and rapid land development, Illinois  
14 must establish a bold goal for the amount of land to be  
15 protected by the year 2030.

16 Section 5. Short title. This Act may be cited as the  
17 Illinois Thirty-by-Thirty Conservation Task Force Act.

18 Section 10. Thirty-by-Thirty Task Force. There is hereby  
19 created the Illinois Thirty-By-Thirty Conservation Task Force.  
20 The Task Force shall have 23 members, comprised as follows:

21 (1) the Director of Natural Resources or the Director's  
22 designee, who shall serve as chairperson;

23 (2) two members from the House of Representatives,  
24 appointed one each by the Speaker of the House and the House

1 Minority Leader;

2 (3) two members of the Senate, appointed one each by the  
3 President of the Senate and the Senate Minority Leader;

4 (4) one member appointed by the Director or Director  
5 Designee of the Department of Agriculture;

6 (5) one member appointed by the Director or Director  
7 Designee of The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency;

8 (6) one member appointed by the Director or Director  
9 Designee of the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic  
10 Opportunity;

11 (7) one member appointed by the Director or Director  
12 Designee of the Illinois Department of Transportation;

13 (8) one environmentalist appointed by the Department of  
14 Natural Resources;

15 (9) one member from a State agriculture association  
16 appointed by the chairperson;

17 (10) two environmental science teachers appointed by the  
18 chairperson;

19 (11) four environmental science students appointed by the  
20 chairperson;

21 (12) three members of a private sector environmental  
22 organization appointed by the chairperson;

23 (13) one higher education professional working with crop  
24 science, appointed by the chairperson;

25 (14) one chemical fertilizer professional appointed by the  
26 chairperson; and

1 (15) one seed producer appointed by the chairperson.

2 Section 15. Duties of the Task Force. The Task Force shall  
3 hold listening sessions regarding ways in which Illinois can  
4 protect 30% of its land and water resources by 2030. The Task  
5 Force shall hold a minimum of three separate listening  
6 sessions in geographically distinct areas of the State.

7 (1) The meetings should at a minimum seek to explore the  
8 following focus areas:

9 (A) identify resources that the State has and how they  
10 are being utilized to protect land and water resources;

11 (B) identify tools, resources, and incentives for  
12 landowners and the private sector to restore degraded  
13 natural areas and to manage their resources sustainably;

14 (C) identify financial resources from the private  
15 sector, philanthropy, and public sources to expand  
16 protections and to help manage lands and waters for  
17 conservation;

18 (D) the ability of the State to manage more public  
19 lands for the benefit of future generations; and

20 (E) strategies to conserve and protect 30% of  
21 Illinois' land and water by 2030.

22 (2) The Task Force shall observe the sovereignty of tribal  
23 nations through meaningful consultation with indigenous tribal  
24 leaders, and shall help indigenous tribal communities fulfill  
25 their visions and priorities for the stewardship of natural,

1 cultural, and historic resources.

2 (3) The Task Force members shall serve without  
3 compensation.

4 Section 20. Administration. The Department of Natural  
5 Resources shall provide administrative and other support to  
6 the Task Force.

7 Section 25. Report. The Task Force shall prepare a report  
8 that summarizes the information gathered during the listening  
9 sessions and submit the report to the Governor and General  
10 Assembly on or before July 1, 2022.

11 Section 30. Repeal. The Task Force is dissolved, and this  
12 Act is repealed on July 1, 2023.

13 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
14 becoming law.