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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Composting is an effective form of waste reduction, reuse, and recycling, and since organic materials make up approximately 30 percent of the material going to landfills, composting is becoming one of the primary methods communities use to reach waste diversion goals and create sustainable communities; and

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WHEREAS, Organic residual materials, including yard trimmings, vegetable cuttings, biosolids, food scraps, manures, and hay shavings, have been composted and converted into a beneficial product known as compost; and

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WHEREAS, Returning organic resources, remanufactured into compost, to the soil reduces water consumption by over 30 percent for all soil types, conserves water during extreme drought or flooding conditions, decreases dependence on chemical fertilizers and pesticides, and decreases erosion and nonpoint source pollution; and

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WHEREAS, Communities, through their local governments, highway departments, soil conservation services, and public works professionals, can have positive impacts on clean water, soil, climate change, and landfill diversion by using compost for public works projects; and

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1           WHEREAS, Composting creates green jobs and infrastructure  
2 for cities and states that implement composting programs; and

3           WHEREAS, International Compost Awareness Week, scheduled  
4 for May 7-13, 2023, is a multimedia publicity and educational  
5 initiative designed to showcase compost production and  
6 demonstrate compost use and is supported by compost industry  
7 organizations from around the world; and

8           WHEREAS, The theme for 2023 is "For Healthier Soil,  
9 Healthier Food ... Compost!"; it recognizes and promotes the  
10 importance of composting and the use of compost in growing  
11 healthier food, in supporting healthier soils, and,  
12 ultimately, in creating a more just and sustainable world;  
13 therefore, be it

14           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL  
15 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare the week of  
16 May 7 through May 13, 2023 as "Compost Awareness Week" in the  
17 State of Illinois.