

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, G. Brent Manning has held the post of Director
3 of the Department of Natural Resources and its predecessor
4 agency the Department of Conservation for 12 years,
5 overseeing an agency of 2,200 employees and a \$750 million
6 budget and its move to a new Natural Resources Headquarters
7 in Springfield; and

8 WHEREAS, During his tenure, the State acquired more than
9 85,000 additional acres of open space for public use,
10 including two of the largest parks in Illinois history;
11 Director Manning worked with federal officials to convert the
12 Joliet Army Arsenal and Savanna Army Depot to recreational
13 lands, and he spearheaded the purchase of recreational lands
14 through the \$200 million Illinois Open Land Trust Initiative;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Many model restoration programs have been
17 undertaken during his tenure, including Conservation 2000,
18 Illinois Rivers 2020, and the Conservation Reserve
19 Enhancement Program, which all greatly benefit the natural
20 resources and numerous habitat types of the rapidly
21 developing prairie state; and

22 WHEREAS, Initiatives such as the Illinois Conservation
23 Foundation, Conservation Congress, the Habitat Stamp,
24 Illinois Environmental and Sportsman's license plates, the
25 Entice education program, the Lake Michigan underwater reef,
26 and Fish Illinois have benefitted the natural resources of
27 Illinois and expanded recreational opportunities for young
28 and old alike; and

29 WHEREAS, Director Manning and the Department of Natural
30 Resources received many accolades for their achievements
31 during the past 12 years, and the Director was selected as
32 President of the International Association of Fish and

1 Wildlife Agencies; therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
3 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
4 we do hereby congratulate Mr. Manning on his State government
5 service and proclaim Wednesday, February 26, 2003 as G. Brent
6 Manning Day in Illinois; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
8 presented to G. Brent Manning as a token of our respect and
9 esteem and with our best wishes for his future endeavors.