



HR0276

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD)
3 is recognizing a momentous hallmark in its exceptional years of
4 service by celebrating its 85th anniversary during 2013; and

5 WHEREAS, The Illinois Association of Park Districts
6 represents more than 2,100 locally elected officials and serves
7 more than 360 park districts, forest preserves, conservation,
8 recreation, and special recreation agencies throughout the
9 State of Illinois; and

10 WHEREAS, During the past 85 years, thousands of elected
11 park officials have selflessly embraced the meaning of true
12 volunteerism, dedicating countless hours of service and
13 contributing their wisdom, talents and resources to the
14 Illinois Association of Park Districts and to improving the
15 quality of life in the communities they represent; and

16 WHEREAS, Throughout its 85-year history, the Illinois
17 Association of Park Districts has advanced its member agencies,
18 their citizen board members, and professional staff through
19 education, research, and advocacy in order to enhance their
20 ability to provide outstanding park and recreation
21 opportunities, preserve natural resources, and improve the
22 quality of life for all people in Illinois; and

1 WHEREAS, As a result of their collaborative efforts,
2 millions of Illinois citizens of all ages enjoy access to high
3 quality, affordable recreational facilities, parks, and
4 programs, including more than 3,800 baseball and softball
5 fields, 3,700 playgrounds, 3,100 miles of recreational trails,
6 2,600 tennis courts, 1,600 soccer fields, 670 aquatic
7 facilities, 600 fishing areas, 460 football fields, 140 golf
8 courses, 110 museums, 90 campgrounds, and numerous botanic and
9 community gardens, natural areas, skate parks, and other
10 recreational areas; and

11 WHEREAS, IAPD's steadfast determination in establishing
12 and securing dedicated funding for parks, recreation, and
13 conservation, such as the OSLAD grant program, has resulted in
14 an investment of more than three quarters of a billion dollars
15 in Illinois' recreational infrastructure and protected more
16 than 10,000 acres of open space for public parks, recreation,
17 and conservation; and

18 WHEREAS, Eighty-five years after the Illinois Association
19 of Park Districts was formed, the spirit and commitment to
20 excellence of the Association is strong with an active and
21 dedicated board of trustees and staff whose energy, enthusiasm,
22 and perseverance to make Illinois a better place to live, work,
23 and play is an inspiring example to all; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
2 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
3 we congratulate the board of trustees, staff, and entire
4 membership of the Illinois Association of Park Districts on the
5 occasion of its 85th anniversary; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
7 presented to the Illinois Association of Park Districts as a
8 symbol of our esteem and respect.