



HR0431

LRB104 14451 ECR 27590 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to commend individuals who have made
4 significant contributions to environmental stewardship and
5 public service in the State of Illinois; and

6 WHEREAS, Margaret Frisbie has dedicated 25 years of
7 outstanding service to Friends of the Chicago River, including
8 20 transformative years as its executive director, leading the
9 organization with passion, vision, and unwavering commitment;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Under Margaret Frisbie's leadership, Friends of
12 the Chicago River's mission to protect and restore the
13 Chicago-Calumet River system for all people, water, and
14 wildlife has flourished, resulting in cleaner water, an
15 increase in thriving wildlife habitats, and greater public
16 engagement throughout the region; and

17 WHEREAS, Margaret Frisbie, since assuming the role of
18 executive director in 2005, has become a leading voice for the
19 implementation of multi-beneficial natural solutions that
20 build climate resiliency, protect biodiversity, and improve
21 public health in an urban landscape; and

1 WHEREAS, Margaret Frisbie has pioneered signature
2 initiatives that have reshaped the Chicago-Calumet River
3 system, including the launch of the award-winning Natural
4 Solutions Tool, the establishment of the Greater Chicago
5 Watershed Alliance, and the creation of instream habitat
6 restoration projects, including the Michigan Avenue Fish
7 Hotel, which is the first floating habitat in the system; and

8 WHEREAS, Under Margaret Frisbie's visionary direction,
9 Friends of the Chicago River has garnered 45 awards and honors
10 in 25 years, and the Chicago-Calumet River system is now
11 widely recognized as a vibrant urban ecosystem that is clean,
12 healthy, biodiverse, resilient, and welcoming; and

13 WHEREAS, Margaret Frisbie's leadership in policy and
14 planning has led to the development of enforceable water
15 quality standards that protect aquatic life and swimmers, the
16 creation of Overflow Action Days, and the establishment of
17 Chicago's River Ecology and Governance Task Force; and

18 WHEREAS, Margaret Frisbie's commitment to wildlife
19 conservation has been evident in many Friends of the Chicago
20 River projects, including supporting nesting turtles, osprey,
21 bats, and channel catfish and the restoration of thousands of
22 acres of upland and riparian habitat; and

1 WHEREAS, Margaret Frisbie has also spearheaded powerful
2 public engagement programs, including the McCormick
3 Bridgehouse & Chicago River Museum, which welcomes over 38,000
4 visitors annually, and the comprehensive Litter Free
5 Chicago-Calumet River initiative; and

6 WHEREAS, Margaret Frisbie has been internationally
7 recognized for her work, including being named a River
8 Champion by River Network in 2017 and a Notable Leader in
9 Sustainability by Crain's Chicago Business in 2022; and

10 WHEREAS, Margaret Frisbie has left an indelible mark on
11 the Chicago-Calumet River system, transforming it along Lake
12 Forest, Lemont, Summit, Sauk Village, and everywhere in
13 between, while inspiring generations to value and protect the
14 waterway that runs through the heart of the region; therefore,
15 be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
17 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
18 we commend Margaret Frisbie for 25 years of extraordinary
19 service to Friends of the Chicago River, thank her for her
20 visionary leadership and tireless advocacy, and acknowledge
21 her enduring impact on the environment and the people of
22 Illinois; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
2 presented to Margaret Frisbie as a symbol of our esteem and
3 respect.