



HR0884

LRB104 21551 ECR 36959 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate the Illinois Department
4 of Natural Resources on the occasion of the 50th anniversary
5 of the dedication of Margery C. Carlson Nature Preserve; and

6 WHEREAS, The Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act
7 created a system for preserving and protecting areas of the
8 state as a part of the heritage of the people of Illinois; and

9 WHEREAS, Illinois Nature Preserves are of value for
10 scientific research, for teaching, as reservoirs of natural
11 materials with potential uses yet to be discovered, as
12 habitats for rare and vanishing species, as places of historic
13 and natural interest and scenic beauty, and as living museums
14 of the native landscape wherein one may envision and
15 experience primeval conditions in a wilderness-like
16 environment; and

17 WHEREAS, Illinois Nature Preserves contribute generally to
18 the public health and welfare and the environmental quality of
19 the State; and

20 WHEREAS, Margery C. Carlson Nature Preserve, located in
21 LaSalle County, was officially established in 1976 to protect

1 and conserve its young forest, bluffs, and stream communities
2 along the Vermilion River in the Grand Prairie Section; and

3 WHEREAS, Margery C. Carlson Nature Preserve is named in
4 honor of an Illinois conservation hero, Margery Claire
5 Carlson, originally of Arthur, who became the first full-time
6 female professor at Northwestern University and was a founder
7 of the Illinois chapter of The Nature Conservancy, serving as
8 its first secretary and trustee, and whose decades of advocacy
9 helped protect other Illinois natural areas, including the
10 Volo Bog State Natural Area, Illinois Beach State Park, and
11 Matthiessen State Park; and

12 WHEREAS, Margery C. Carlson Nature Preserve is recognized
13 for its eroding bluff plant communities representative of
14 sites near the Vermilion River, making it an important natural
15 area within north-central Illinois; and

16 WHEREAS, Margery C. Carlson Nature Preserve provides
17 critical habitat for a diverse array of plant and animal
18 species, including over 75 species of flowering herbaceous
19 plants, such as forked aster and bottle gentian, deer,
20 beavers, and red foxes; and

21 WHEREAS, Margery C. Carlson Nature Preserve offers
22 opportunities for nature observation and environmental

1 education, allowing residents and visitors to experience bluff
2 and forest communities characteristic of the Vermilion River
3 corridor; and

4 WHEREAS, The stewardship of Margery C. Carlson Nature
5 Preserve has been supported by dedicated local partners,
6 community members, and conservation advocates with additional
7 support from organizations such as the Illinois Nature
8 Preserves Commission and the Illinois Department of Natural
9 Resources; and

10 WHEREAS, Over the past 50 years, Margery C. Carlson Nature
11 Preserve has contributed to the protection of Illinois'
12 natural heritage and serves as a valuable natural resource for
13 the residents of LaSalle County; therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
15 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
16 we congratulate the Illinois Department of Natural Resources
17 on the 50th anniversary of the dedication of Margery C.
18 Carlson Nature Preserve, and we commend its ongoing commitment
19 to conservation, education, and stewardship; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
21 presented to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources as a
22 symbol of our respect and esteem.