



HR0989

LRB104 22486 ECR 38931 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representative wish to congratulate the University of Illinois
4 on the occasion of the 150-year anniversary of the creation of
5 the Morrow Plots; and

6 WHEREAS, The Morrow Plots started in 1876 as an
7 experimental crop field to study if Midwestern soils required
8 fertilizer or if simple crop rotation was sufficient for soil
9 nutrient retention and stewardship, becoming the nation's
10 oldest research field and one of the oldest continual
11 agricultural research fields, second only to England's
12 Rothamsted Field; and

13 WHEREAS, The Morrow Plots' establishment can be attributed
14 to a collection of three talented agricultural researchers,
15 agricultural chemist Charles Wallace Silver, Agriculture
16 Professor Manly Miles, and Professor and Chair of Agriculture
17 George Espy Morrow; and

18 WHEREAS, The Morrow Plots were named after Professor
19 Morrow, the first dean of the College of Agricultural,
20 Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES) at the University
21 of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, after publishing the findings of
22 a long-term corn study, known as the Experiment 23 Rotation

1 Study, that he inherited from Professor Miles in 1888; and

2 WHEREAS, The Morrow Plots were initially ten half-acre
3 fields designed to test how cropping methods affected soil
4 health and productivity over time; as the University of
5 Illinois expanded, two plots were removed from the study in
6 1895 and used for construction purposes, five other plots were
7 returned to grasslands in 1903, and the remaining three plots
8 were reduced in size and subdivided into the profile that is
9 now familiar to the campus; and

10 WHEREAS, The Morrow Plots were designated a National
11 Historic Landmark in 1968 in recognition of both the
12 scientific and symbolic impact of the plots on their 100-year
13 anniversary; and

14 WHEREAS, The Morrow Plots occupy a unique space on the
15 ACES campus as both a place of scientific study and cultural
16 prominence, reinforcing that agriculture is cyclical; and

17 WHEREAS, The Morrow Plots' purpose remains dedicated to
18 the advancement of agricultural knowledge to better support
19 responsible land stewardship and enhancement of the public
20 good; therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE

1 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
2 we congratulate the University of Illinois on the 150-year
3 anniversary of the establishment of the Morrow Plots; and be
4 it further

5 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
6 presented to Dr. Andrew Margenot, Director of the Morrow
7 Plots, as an expression of our esteem and respect.