



SR0788

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1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate wish to
3 congratulate the Illinois Department of Natural Resources on
4 the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the dedication of
5 Beall Woods 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 not all of the potential uses of which are now known,
12 as habitats for rare and vanishing species, as places of
13 historic and natural interest and scenic beauty, and as living
14 museums 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, Beall Woods Nature Preserve, located in Wabash
21 County, was officially established in 1966 to protect and

1 conserve its bottomland and upland old-growth hardwood forests
2 and riverine communities along the Wabash River; and

3 WHEREAS, Beall Woods Nature Preserve is recognized for its
4 towering trees reaching 120 feet tall and more than 3 feet in
5 diameter, as well as its designation as a National Natural
6 Landmark, often referred to as the "Forest of the Wabash",
7 reflecting its status as one of the last remaining old-growth
8 forests in Illinois, making it an important natural area
9 within southeastern Illinois; and

10 WHEREAS, Beall Woods Nature Preserve provides critical
11 habitat for a diverse array of plant and animal species,
12 including several Illinois state champion trees such as the
13 sugarberry, mockernut hickory, pecan, and black gum, and
14 wildlife such as the pileated woodpecker and the
15 state-endangered northern madtom; and

16 WHEREAS, Beall Woods Nature Preserve offers opportunities
17 for hiking, nature observation, birdwatching, and
18 environmental education, allowing residents and visitors to
19 experience one of Illinois' last remaining old-growth forests
20 and its rich biodiversity firsthand; and

21 WHEREAS, The stewardship of Beall Woods Nature Preserve
22 has been supported by dedicated local partners, community

1 members, and conservation advocates, with additional support
2 from organizations such as the Illinois Nature Preserves
3 Commission and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Over the past 60 years, Beall Woods Nature
6 Preserve has contributed to the protection of Illinois'
7 natural heritage and serves as a valuable natural resource for
8 the residents of Wabash County; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL
10 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate the
11 Illinois Department of Natural Resources on the 60th
12 anniversary of the dedication of Beall Woods Nature Preserve
13 and commend its ongoing commitment to conservation, education,
14 and stewardship; and be it further

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