



HR0011

LRB102 10080 MST 15400 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Children are spending less time outdoors  
3 exploring, discovering, and observing our natural world and  
4 playing and creating in open spaces; and

5 WHEREAS, Not participating in these types of activities  
6 has been shown to have adverse health, social, and emotional  
7 consequences; and

8 WHEREAS, Spending time in the outdoors with frequent  
9 access to nature experiences and lessons provides a foundation  
10 upon which to build physical strength and environmental  
11 awareness; and

12 WHEREAS, Learning about the environment and other subjects  
13 in an outdoor setting, an outdoor classroom or garden, and  
14 through field studies and outdoor lab activities is known to  
15 help increase student performance in class, increase student  
16 interest in learning, reduce disciplinary problems, and  
17 increase student ownership of work being done; and

18 WHEREAS, The future quality, quantity, and use of the  
19 State's natural resources will lie in the hands of children;  
20 and

1           WHEREAS, Children will need to understand natural systems  
2           and the interrelationships between natural and human-built  
3           systems in order to make decisions and take actions that will  
4           maintain a high quality of life; therefore, be it

5           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
6           HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
7           we believe that every child should have the right and  
8           opportunity to explore the woods and climb a tree, run through  
9           a field and build a fort, splash in the water and catch a fish,  
10          explore a local park and turn over a log, sleep out in a tent  
11          and gaze at the stars, follow a trail and listen to a bird  
12          song, play in the mud and hold a frog, plant a garden and eat  
13          locally grown food, play in the rain and follow animal tracks,  
14          and be alone in nature or share it with a friend; and be it  
15          further

16          RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
17          delivered to the Director of the Illinois Department of  
18          Natural Resources, the Director of the Illinois Environmental  
19          Protection Agency, the Director of the Illinois Department of  
20          Children and Family Services, and the Governor.