



Sen. Karina Villa

Filed: 5/3/2024

10300HB5488sam001

LRB103 37550 BDA 72961 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 5488

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend House Bill 5488 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5 Legacy Tree Program Task Force Act.

6 Section 5. Findings; purpose.

7 (a) The General Assembly finds that:

8 (1) Trees are essential to ecological, cultural, and
9 economic life on Earth.

10 (2) Trees support species diversity, food webs,
11 habitats, and numerous ecological processes, such as water
12 and air purification.

13 (3) Trees assist in regulating climate and soil
14 fertility.

15 (4) The State must commit to preserving and
16 celebrating our legacy and heritage trees and must develop

1 pathways for the public to advocate for the preservation
2 of trees in communities.

3 (b) The General Assembly intends this Act to help create a
4 Statewide legacy tree program to promote the identification,
5 awareness, commemoration, and preservation of significant
6 trees within the State.

7 Section 10. Legacy Tree Program Task Force.

8 (a) The Legacy Tree Program Task Force is created, shall
9 meet on a quarterly basis for 4 years after the effective date
10 of this Act, and shall, by no later than June 30, 2028, submit
11 to the General Assembly, in accordance with Section 3.1 of the
12 General Assembly Organization Act, a report that contains the
13 final recommendations developed under subsection (b).

14 (b) The Legacy Tree Program Task Force shall establish
15 recommendations for the creation of a statewide legacy tree
16 recognition program to promote the identification, awareness,
17 commemoration, and preservation of significant trees in the
18 State.

19 (c) The Task Force shall consist of the following members:

20 (1) one representative of an environmental
21 organization, appointed by the Governor;

22 (2) one representative of the Morton Arboretum,
23 appointed by the Governor;

24 (3) the director of the Illinois Environmental
25 Protection Agency or a representative of their choosing;

1 (4) one representative of the Illinois Forestry
2 Development Council, appointed by the Governor;

3 (5) one representative of the Shawnee National Forest,
4 appointed by the Governor;

5 (6) one representative of the Southern Illinois
6 University Department of Forestry, appointed by the
7 Governor;

8 (7) one representative of the University of Illinois
9 Extension forestry program, appointed by the Governor;

10 (8) one representative of an association that
11 represents Illinois arborists, appointed by the Governor;

12 (9) two representatives of the Department of Natural
13 Resources, appointed by the Governor;

14 (10) one representative of an environmental
15 organization that is different than the organization in
16 paragraph (1), appointed by the Governor;

17 (11) one representative of the Chicago Urban Forestry
18 Board, appointed by the Governor;

19 (12) one representative of a forest preserve district
20 in a county that is adjacent to Cook County, appointed by
21 the Governor;

22 (13) one representative of a forest preserve district
23 located south of Interstate 80, appointed by the Governor;

24 (14) one representative of a statewide organization
25 representing park districts, appointed by the Governor;

26 (15) one member of the House of Representatives,

1 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

2 (16) one member of the House of Representatives,
3 appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of
4 Representatives;

5 (17) one member of the Senate, appointed by the
6 President of the Senate; and

7 (18) one member of the Senate, appointed by the
8 Minority Leader of the Senate.

9 (d) Members of the Task Force shall serve without
10 compensation.

11 (e) The Department of Natural Resources shall provide
12 staff and administrative support services to the Task Force
13 and serve as the lead and chair agency of the Task Force.

14 Section 15. Responsibilities. The Task Force shall
15 establish recommendations for the following:

16 (1) criteria for a definition of legacy tree and
17 legacy tree standards that can be used on a variety of
18 trees;

19 (2) criteria for which the historical and cultural
20 significance of a tree could be measured;

21 (3) procedures for nominating trees on public and
22 private property;

23 (4) exploring partnership opportunities with units of
24 local government for oversight of the legacy tree program
25 and participation in the program;

1 (5) creating a public awareness program, including
2 digital media, a website, a legacy tree tool kit and
3 educational materials to be made available by the
4 Department of Natural Resources for use by units of local
5 government;

6 (6) exploring funding sources for the operation and
7 maintenance of the statewide legacy tree program,
8 including grant funding opportunities to facilitate
9 participation in the program by units of local government;

10 (7) procedures for withdrawing trees from the program;

11 (8) procedures for legacy tree assessment;

12 (9) procedures for how a tree would be designated or
13 honored physically;

14 (10) procedures for mapping trees on a searchable
15 website; and

16 (11) procedures for delisting a healthy designated
17 legacy tree.

18 Section 90. Repeal. This Act is repealed on June 30,
19 2034."