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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, On May 12, 1905, Governor Charles S. Deneen signed legislation authorizing the creation of the Illinois State Geological Survey to study, inventory, and report on the geology and mineral resources of the State; and

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WHEREAS, On May 12, 2005, the Illinois State Geological Survey is beginning a year-long celebration of its one hundred years of service to the people of Illinois; and

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WHEREAS, During the past one hundred years, the Illinois State Geological Survey has published thousands of geological maps and scientific articles, reports, and educational materials that have established the agency's reputation as one of the premier geological research and scientific service institutions in North America; and

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WHEREAS, The members of the General Assembly, recognizing the importance and economic value to the people of obtaining reliable, unbiased information about Illinois' valuable earth resources, including groundwater, coal, oil and gas, and industrial minerals, and about the potential hazards that may come from natural events such as earthquakes, landslides, and floods, have continued to support the Illinois State Geological Survey through annual appropriations throughout the past century; and

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WHEREAS, Economic studies have demonstrated that each dollar invested in producing detailed geological maps by the Illinois State Geological Survey and making them available to the public has returned between twenty-five and thirty-nine dollars to the economy of the State through reduced costs for environmental cleanups, exploring for earth resources, and safe-siting of waste disposal facilities, industries, and critical infrastructure; and

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1           WHEREAS, The geologists at the Illinois State Geological  
2 Survey are continuing to serve the people of Illinois by  
3 creating detailed geological maps of the rapidly urbanizing  
4 areas of the State where the needs are greatest, and by  
5 creating three-dimensional computer models of the complexly  
6 layered glacial deposits that cover all but the southernmost  
7 parts of the State, to help local officials locate and protect  
8 groundwater aquifers, find the best sites for industrial  
9 development, properly plan necessary urban and suburban  
10 growth, route highways and other modes of transportation, and  
11 build other infrastructure; and

12           WHEREAS, The scientific experts at the Illinois State  
13 Geological Survey are developing new technologies and studying  
14 the State's geology in order to make the State of Illinois the  
15 recognized leader in "cradle-to-grave" management of fossil  
16 fuel resources so that our citizens and the nation may  
17 ultimately enjoy the possibility of using the State's abundant  
18 coal and oil and gas resources in a pollution-free manner;  
19 therefore, be it

20           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL  
21 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we do hereby proclaim  
22 May 12, 2005, Illinois State Geological Survey Day to honor the  
23 beginning of that institution's Centennial Celebration and  
24 urge the people of Illinois to support and participate in the  
25 many public events and activities to be held during the coming  
26 year in celebration of that Centennial; and be it further

27           RESOLVED, That Illinois State Senators and their staffs are  
28 encouraged to meet the scientists, technicians, and  
29 administrators of the agency on the first floor of the State  
30 House on May 17, 2005, to learn about some of the scientific  
31 projects currently being pursued by the Survey for the benefit  
32 of the people and industries of Illinois; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
2 presented to the agency for display at its headquarters  
3 building in Champaign, Illinois.