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LRB095 20711 GRL 49123 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development Act (OSLAD) provides for grants to be disbursed by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to eligible local governments for the purpose of acquiring, developing, and/or rehabilitating lands for public outdoor recreation; and

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WHEREAS, The Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development Fund (Fund) is used by the Department to make these grants to local governments, which are selected through an application process; and

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WHEREAS, Through the program, local governments can obtain funding assistance up to 50% of approved project costs on a reimbursement basis; and

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WHEREAS, Funded projects range from small neighborhood parks to large community and county parks and nature areas; and

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WHEREAS, From FY05 to FY06, appropriations from the Fund increased by 4% but expenditures decreased by 29% and more projects are being reappropriated from one year to the next; therefore, be it

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RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL

1 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that the Auditor General is
2 directed to conduct a management audit of the Open Space Lands
3 Acquisition and Development program; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That this performance audit include, but not be
5 limited to, the following determinations:

6 (1) the number and dollar value of applications
7 received for OSLAD grants between FY05 and FY07;

8 (2) the number and dollar value of OSLAD projects
9 approved by DNR between FY05 and FY07;

10 (3) the number and dollar value of OSLAD projects
11 completed during fiscal years 2005, 2006, and 2007;

12 (4) whether reimbursements from the State to local
13 governments for OSLAD projects have been delayed and, if
14 so, the reason or reasons for such delays;

15 (5) whether reimbursements from the State have been
16 assigned a priority within the limits of the amounts
17 appropriated for grants for Fiscal Years 2005, 2006, and
18 2007 and, if so, the criteria for such prioritizing; and

19 (6) the reason or reasons for increases in
20 reappropriated projects between 2005 and 2007 and whether
21 those increases are attributable to funding shortfalls or
22 delays at the State; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the Department of Natural Resources and any
24 other entity having information relevant to this audit

1 cooperate fully and promptly with the Auditor General's Office
2 in the conduct of this audit; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That the Auditor General commence this audit as
4 soon as possible and report his findings and recommendations
5 upon completion in accordance with the provisions of Section
6 3-14 of the Illinois State Auditing Act; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be delivered to
8 the Auditor General.