

1 AN ACT concerning local government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Act  
5 is amended by adding Section 56 as follows:

6 (70 ILCS 2605/56 new)

7 Sec. 56. Resource recovery.

8 (a) The General Assembly finds that:

9 (1) technological advancements in wastewater treatment  
10 have resulted in the ability to capture recovered resources  
11 and produce renewable energy resources from material  
12 previously discarded;

13 (2) the capture and beneficial reuse of recovered  
14 resources and the production of renewable energy resources  
15 serves a wide variety of environmental benefits including,  
16 but not limited to, improved water quality, reduction of  
17 greenhouse gases, reduction of carbon footprint, reduction  
18 of landfill usage, reduced usage of hydrocarbon-based  
19 fuels, return of nutrients to the food cycle, and reduced  
20 water consumption;

21 (3) the district is a leader in the field of wastewater  
22 treatment and possesses the expertise and experience  
23 necessary to capture and beneficially reuse or prepare for

1 beneficial reuse recovered resources, including renewable  
2 energy resources; and

3 (4) the district has the opportunity and ability to  
4 change the approach to wastewater treatment from that of a  
5 waste material to be disposed of to one of a collection of  
6 resources to be recovered, reused, and sold, with the  
7 opportunity to provide the district with additional  
8 sources of revenue and reduce operating costs.

9 (b) As used in this Section:

10 "Recovered resources" means any material produced by or  
11 extracted from the operation of district facilities,  
12 including, but not limited to:

13 (1) solids, including solids from the digestion  
14 process, semi-solids, or liquid materials;

15 (2) gases, including biogas, carbon dioxide, and  
16 methane;

17 (3) nutrients;

18 (4) algae;

19 (5) treated effluent; and

20 (6) thermal energy or hydropower.

21 "Renewable energy facility" shall have the same meaning as  
22 a facility defined under Section 5 of the Renewable Energy  
23 Production District Act.

24 "Renewable energy resources" means resources as defined  
25 under Section 1-10 of the Illinois Power Agency Act.

26 "Resource recovery" means the recovery of material or

1 energy from waste as defined under Section 3.435 of the  
2 Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Act.

3 (c) The district may sell or otherwise dispose of recovered  
4 resources or renewable energy resources resulting from the  
5 operation of district facilities, and may construct, maintain,  
6 finance, and operate such activities, facilities, and other  
7 works as are necessary for that purpose.

8 (d) The district may take in materials which are used in  
9 the generation of usable products from recovered resources, or  
10 which increase the production of renewable energy resources,  
11 including, but not limited to food waste, organic fraction of  
12 solid waste, commercial or industrial organic wastes, fats,  
13 oils, and greases, and vegetable debris.

14 (e) The authorizations granted to the district under this  
15 Section shall not be construed as modifying or limiting any  
16 other law or regulation. Any actions taken pursuant to the  
17 authorities granted in this Section must be in compliance with  
18 all applicable laws and regulations, including, but not limited  
19 to, the Environmental Protection Act, and rules adopted under  
20 that Act.

21 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
22 becoming law.