



SJ0073

LRB098 21037 GRL 58751 r

1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Numerous development projects are occurring in
3 Illinois, including roads, electric transmission lines, and
4 pipelines; and

5 WHEREAS, Landowners are often unaware their land is being
6 considered for a project until they are contacted by a field
7 agent; and

8 WHEREAS, An open line of communication often eases
9 landowner concerns and helps preserve the integrity of any land
10 impacted by construction; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL
12 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
13 CONCURRING HEREIN, that, in the taking of land or seeking of
14 easements by eminent domain or quick-take procedures for
15 development projects, the Senate recommends the following
16 steps be followed by the entity developing the project:

17 (1) Notify affected landowners about the potential
18 project as soon as possible and provide a reliable time
19 frame for development activities;

20 (2) Notify a landowner prior to entering the
21 landowner's private property for any reason;

22 (3) Keep work crews within the working easement;

1 (4) If applicable, ensure all field drainage tiles are
2 repaired by a drain tile contractor chosen by the
3 landowner, including repairing drainage issues discovered
4 after the project is completed;

5 (5) Ensure that road closings are limited and
6 appropriate detour access is provided;

7 (6) Ensure that run off and storm water are
8 appropriately managed in a dedicated system and not
9 directed into farm fields or farm drainage ditches;

10 (7) Assign an ombudsman for purposes of communication
11 with landowners to address problems that arise before,
12 during, and after the project is completed; the ombudsman
13 should be on call for a period of 5 years after completion
14 of the project so that any damages to property, which may
15 not be revealed until after the project is completed, can
16 be reported; the ombudsmen should provide a predictable,
17 transparent, and credible communication process to all
18 parties resulting in outcomes that are seen as fair,
19 effective, and lasting and enable a more systematic
20 identification of emerging issues and trends, facilitating
21 corrective action and preemptive engagement; and

22 (8) Inform landowners about any pertinent State
23 agriculture impact mitigation agreements and inform them
24 that the provisions of those agreements may be the minimum
25 standards for impact migration that could be included in
26 landowner agreements or contracts.