



HR0166

LRB101 09999 ALS 56541 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Twenty-four species of milkweed grow naturally in
3 Illinois; four of these species are listed as endangered in
4 Illinois, and one of the four is listed as threatened on the
5 federal endangered and threatened species list; and

6 WHEREAS, Milkweeds are perennial, herbaceous plants; and

7 WHEREAS, When an insect lands on the flower to drink
8 nectar, its leg, antennae, or bristles can slip into the slit
9 where the pollen is stored; and

10 WHEREAS, The pollen-containing structure clips onto the
11 insect part; when the insect pulls away from the flower, this
12 pollen packet goes too; and

13 WHEREAS, At another flower, the same insect body part may
14 slip inside another slit in the flower column where the pollen
15 needs to be delivered; and

16 WHEREAS, Milkweed flowers are unique in this method of
17 pollen transfer; milkweeds grow in a variety of habitats; some
18 of them prefer wet soil, and some of them prefer dry soil; some
19 of them flourish along roads or in fields, where others grow in
20 open woods or thickets; and

1 WHEREAS, A close relationship exists between monarchs and
2 milkweed plants; and

3 WHEREAS, Monarch larvae only eat milkweed plants; if there
4 is no milkweed, there will be no monarch; for this reason, the
5 milkweed was recently designated as the official State
6 wildflower; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
8 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
9 we encourage the utilization of milkweed in soil and water
10 conservation practices and in Federal Conservation Reserve
11 Programs (CRP); we also encourage the growth of milkweed on
12 State grounds; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, that we urge maintenance restrictions be lifted
14 for certain areas, so milkweed can be grown in the previously
15 listed programs.