



HR0394

LRB101 12526 ALS 60843 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Kaskaskia Watershed encompasses 10.2 percent of
3 the State and includes all or parts of 22 counties; and

4 WHEREAS, Kaskaskia Watershed starts in Champaign County
5 and ends at the Mississippi River in Randolph County; and

6 WHEREAS, Kaskaskia Watershed includes 13 House Districts
7 and eight Senate Districts of the Illinois General Assembly;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Kaskaskia Watershed has three authorized Corps
10 projects, Lake Shelbyville, Carlyle Lake, and the Kaskaskia
11 Navigation Project; and

12 WHEREAS, The Corps projects generate 7.4 million visitors
13 and over \$167.2 million in visitor spending; and

14 WHEREAS, An estimated 557,837 people are served by public
15 water from the Corps project in the watershed; and

16 WHEREAS, The Kaskaskia River provides water for cooling
17 purposes to three power plants, one being in the top five power
18 producing-plants in the world; and

1 WHEREAS, The Kaskaskia River is degrading by a headcut that
2 travels at a rate of one mile per year; and

3 WHEREAS, Damages induced by headcutting result in
4 increased dredging, loss of private property, and significant
5 ecosystem degradation to the riverine environment; the largest
6 contiguous stand of bottomland hardwood forest in the State of
7 Illinois is also affected; and

8 WHEREAS, The United States Congress established the
9 Kaskaskia Watershed Restoration Act in 2007 and authorized
10 \$20,000,000 for critical projects after a Comprehensive Plan is
11 developed; and

12 WHEREAS, In 2014, the Army Corps of Engineers funded the
13 Watershed Comprehensive Plan with \$1.5 million in federal funds
14 with a requirement of a 50 percent match of non-federal funds;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, The Comprehensive Plan is stalled due to the lack
17 of financial support from the State of Illinois; the remaining
18 \$300,000 in non-federal funds is needed to complete the plan
19 and to leverage \$20,000,000 in federal funds; and

20 WHEREAS, Time is of the essence in that the federal funds
21 will be reprogrammed to other states; failure to move forward

1 will eliminate the Kaskaskia Watershed from consideration in
2 the future; therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
4 HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
5 we urge all four caucuses and the Governor to consider the
6 Kaskaskia Watershed Comprehensive Plan when creating the
7 upcoming fiscal year budget.