



HR0754

LRB102 26830 MST 37847 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Prescribed fire provides multiple ecological,
3 economic, and cultural benefits to the State of Illinois; and

4 WHEREAS, Prescribed fire has been practiced for thousands
5 of years and was a primary tool used by Indigenous peoples to
6 attract game, stimulate a rich ground layer of plants for
7 harvesting, and keep woodlands and grasslands open and easy to
8 traverse; and

9 WHEREAS, Prescribed fire is a traditional land management
10 practice and public safety tool that helps prevent and lessen
11 the severity of wildfires; and

12 WHEREAS, Prescribed fire is a valuable tool used by forest
13 landowners and managers in reducing hazardous fuels, reducing
14 the risk of destructive wildfires, preparing sites for both
15 natural and artificial forest regeneration, improving access
16 to and the appearance of land, and controlling detrimental
17 insects and forest diseases; and

18 WHEREAS, Prescribed fire is an effective natural tool for
19 controlling invasive species; and

20 WHEREAS, Prescribed fire is one of the most important land

1 management practices in maintaining and restoring healthy
2 landscapes, but only approximately 6% of conservation lands in
3 Illinois are currently being managed with prescribed fire; and

4 WHEREAS, Prescribed fire is used to restore and maintain
5 fire-dependent ecosystems and to manage wildlife habitat for
6 many species; it is a vital tool to maintain economic,
7 biological, and aesthetic resources across Illinois; and

8 WHEREAS, The Illinois Prescribed Fire Council is an
9 organization of both public and private partners with a
10 mission to promote the safe and continued use of prescribed
11 fire on the Illinois landscape; and

12 WHEREAS, The Illinois General Assembly passed the Illinois
13 Prescribed Burning Act in 2007 defining prescribed fire as
14 "the planned application of fire to naturally occurring
15 vegetative fuels under specified environmental conditions and
16 following appropriate precautionary measures, which causes the
17 fire to be confined to a predetermined area and accomplish the
18 planned land management objectives."; and

19 WHEREAS, Prescribed fire helps keep Illinois grasslands
20 and forests healthy, which, in return, provides ecological
21 services such as clean air and clean water and contributes to
22 the quality of life of the State's citizens and to local

1 economies; therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
3 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
4 we declare April 11-15, 2022 as "Prescribed Burning Awareness
5 Week" in the State of Illinois; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That we support the appropriate and continued
7 use of prescribed fire in Illinois; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
9 presented to the Illinois Prescribed Fire Council as a symbol
10 of our respect and esteem.