

1 AN ACT concerning State government.

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

4 Section 5. The Department of Natural Resources
5 (Conservation) Law of the Civil Administrative Code of
6 Illinois is amended by adding Section 805-570 as follows:

7 (20 ILCS 805/805-570 new)

8 Sec. 805-570. Conservation Opportunity Areas.

9 (a) In this Section, "Conservation Opportunity Area" means
10 a portion of this State within the Illinois Wildlife Action
11 Plan to assist with the conservation of native species and the
12 habitats that support them.

13 (b) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, a
14 Conservation Opportunity Area designation by the Department
15 shall not be used by the Illinois Power Agency beginning with
16 the Long-Term Renewable Resources Procurement Plan outlined in
17 paragraph (5) of subsection (b) of Section 16-111.5 of the
18 Public Utilities Act developed in calendar year 2023 as a
19 basis to deny or withhold any:

20 (1) regulatory action;

21 (2) permitting;

22 (3) licensure; and

23 (4) funding.