



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 15-0558, **Version:** 1

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### **PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

#### **HONORING THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY WITH THE ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF PARK DISTRICT BEST OF THE BEST AWARDS**

**WHEREAS**, on October 2, 2015, the Forest Preserve District of Cook County (“The Preserves”) was the recipient of three (3) awards from the Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD) in recognition of its 100 year anniversary and in the categories of Intergovernmental Cooperation and Outstanding Citizen Volunteer of the Year; and

**WHEREAS**, IAPD’s Best of the Best Awards is an opportunity to acknowledge those going above and beyond to advance recreation and conservation across the state of Illinois; and

**WHEREAS**, the IAPD recognized the Preserves for its **Centennial** and its reaffirmation to ensure that the forest preserves continue to protect natural diversity and provide the residents of Cook County with the many benefits that come from spending time in nature; and

**WHEREAS**, the **Cal-Sag Trail Coalition** has been awarded with the Best of the Best Award in the Intergovernmental Category. This award recognizes successful intergovernmental agreements or partnerships that maximize tax dollars and benefit resident through the community. The Cal-Sag Trail Coalition represents the successful collaboration among federal, state, local and community organizations and individuals that has resulted in a 26 mile multi-use path from Lemont in the west to Burnham in the east. The trail links more than 330,000 people in fourteen communities within Cook County and celebrates this region’s rich cultural and natural assets; and

**WHEREAS**, **Kathleen Garness** has received the Outstanding Citizen Volunteer of the Year Award, an award that recognizes citizens’ volunteer efforts to enhance forest preserves, parklands and other open spaces. Kathleen was selected for her exceptional contributions to nature and conservation efforts on behalf of the Forest Preserves. She volunteers throughout the county, is a certified stewardship workday leader, rare plant monitor, and skilled artist who excels at botanical illustrations. Kathleen is a model conservationist and volunteer of extraordinary generous and nurturing spirit and contributes significantly to the wellbeing of the Forest Preserves; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Toni Preckwinkle, President; the Board of Commissioners; and Arnold L. Randall, General Superintendent of the Preserves thank and congratulate the Preserves, the Cal-Sag Trail Coalition, and Kathleen Garness for their steadfast commitment to protect and preserve the remarkable nature of the Preserves.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a suitable copy of this Resolution be presented to the members of the Cal-Sag Coalition and Kathleen Garness as a token of appreciation for their service to the Preserves and the residents of Cook County.