



Legislation Text

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PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING SUSAN DOMBRO FOR RECEIVING THE NON-FORMAL EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2016, Susan Dombro received the Non-Formal Educator of the Year Award from the Environmental Education Association of Illinois (EEAI) and was honored at EEAI'S annual conference in Canton, Illinois. This award, limited to one recipient each year, is presented for exhibiting innovative and exemplary effort in providing environmental education opportunities for general audiences; and

WHEREAS, Susan Dombro has been with the Forest Preserves of Cook County for nearly 20 years beginning as a naturalist and now serving as the Director of the Trailside Museum and Nature Center in River Forest, Illinois. Susan was instrumental in designing and building the Forest Preserves' first nature play area at Crabtree Nature Center in Barrington. This nature play area has served as an inspiration for other forest preserves, park districts, and zoos in the region. Through her direct efforts and her example, she has introduced thousands of children to the joys of nature play. Sue is now building her second nature play area at Trailside; and

WHEREAS, Susan Dombro has been a leading advocate for the Leave No Child Inside Initiative, an initiative launched by Chicago Wilderness and now conducted in partnership with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Sue has led workshops on the benefits of nature play and has been extremely generous and enthusiastic in sharing her experiences, tips, and lessons learned with colleagues and partners; and

WHEREAS, Susan Dombro spends each and every day introducing people to nature and helping Forest Preserve visitors build their confidence as they explore the outdoors. Her passion and work contribute substantially to the Forest Preserves Conservation and Experiential Programming Department's mission to ensure that everyone will feel welcome in the Forest Preserves and will seek them out for discovery, renewal and fun; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Arnold L. Randall, General Superintendent; Toni Preckwinkle, President; and the Board of Commissioners of the Preserves thank and congratulate Sue Dombro on being recognized as EEAI's Non-Formal Educator of the Year for her commitment to connecting people with nature.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be presented to Susan Dombro as a token of appreciation for her service to the Forest Preserves of Cook County and the residents of Cook County.