

594

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N   A S S E M B L Y

(PREFILED)

January 7, 2009

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Introduced by M. of A. CAHILL, COLTON, FINCH -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M.  
of A. SWEENEY -- read once and referred to the Committee on Environ-  
mental Conservation

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY

proposing an amendment to section 4 of article 14 of the constitution,  
in relation to environmental protection

1     Section 1. Resolved (if the Senate concur), That section 4 of article  
2     14 of the constitution be amended to read as follows:  
3     S 4. The policy of the state shall be to conserve and protect its  
4     natural AND CULTURAL resources and scenic beauty and encourage the  
5     development and improvement of its agricultural lands for the production  
6     of food and other agricultural products. The legislature, in implement-  
7     ing this policy, shall include adequate provision for the abatement of  
8     air and water pollution and of excessive and unnecessary noise, the  
9     protection of agricultural lands, wetlands and shorelines, and the  
10    development and regulation of water resources AND SHALL ESTABLISH AN  
11    OFFICE OF PUBLIC ADVOCATE WITH THE AUTHORITY TO COMMENCE CIVIL ACTION  
12    AGAINST THE STATE OR ANY OF ITS DEPARTMENTS, AGENCIES OR BUREAUS OR ITS  
13    PUBLIC AUTHORITIES TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC'S INTEREST IN THE STATE'S  
14    NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES. The legislature shall further provide  
15    for the acquisition of lands and waters, including improvements thereon  
16    and any interest therein, outside the forest preserve counties, and the  
17    dedication of properties so acquired or now owned, which because of  
18    their natural beauty, wilderness character, or geological, ecological or  
19    historical significance, shall be preserved and administered for the use  
20    and enjoyment of the people. Properties so dedicated shall constitute  
21    the state nature and historical preserve and they shall not be taken or  
22    otherwise disposed of except by law enacted by two successive regular  
23    sessions of the legislature.  
24    S 2. Resolved (if the Senate concur), That the foregoing be referred  
25    to the first regular legislative session convening after the next

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[ ] is old law to be omitted.

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1 succeeding general election of members of the assembly, and, in conform-  
2 ity with section 1 of article 19 of the constitution, be published for 3  
3 months previous to the time of such election.