



# Board of Commissioners of Cook County

118 North Clark Street  
Chicago, IL

## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 18-2343, **Version:** 1

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### PROPOSED RESOLUTION

#### EARTH DAY 2018

**WHEREAS**, Earth Day, April 22, is celebrated around the world with the goal of diversifying, educating and activating the environmental movement; and

**WHEREAS**, addressing climate change requires action on many fronts; including decreasing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and protecting the natural environment; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to reach the goal of an 80% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 the County has reduced its GHG emissions in the categories of energy, water and transportation by 19% since 2010; and

**WHEREAS**, building energy is the largest contributor to GHG emissions in our region and the County has decreased GHG emissions from building energy by 25% since 2010; and

**WHEREAS**, the exponential growth of the use of plastics poisons and injures marine life, disrupts human hormones, creates litter and clogs our streams and landfills; and

**WHEREAS**, Earth Day 2018 is dedicated to providing the information and inspiration needed to fundamentally change human attitude and behavior about plastics; and

**WHEREAS**, about 22 million pounds of plastic, including straws, drink lids and single use plastic bags flow into the Great Lakes each year, according to the Illinois Environmental Council; and

**WHEREAS**, plastic accounts for about 80% of the litter on the Great Lakes' shorelines; and

**WHEREAS**, true solutions focus on reducing the sources of plastic pollution by decreasing demand for items such as water and soft-drink bottles, beverage cups and straws, disposable utensils, wrappers and packaging;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by President Toni Preckwinkle and the Cook County Board of Commissioners to hereby encourage Cook County employees and residents to reduce plastic pollution by taking a pass on plastic whenever possible; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, by President Toni Preckwinkle and the Cook County Board of Commissioners that April 22, 2018 is Earth Day in Cook County.