



Board of Commissioners of Cook County

118 North Clark Street
Chicago, IL

Legislation Text

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

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.