

1 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 108

2 BY CONNOLLY and DRAKE

3 A Concurrent Resolution expressing support of
4 conservation efforts in the Mississippi
5 Blufflands.

6 WHEREAS, the Mississippi River basin is one of the
7 most scenic and unique natural areas in the world,
8 supporting a great diversity of plant and animal
9 species as well as thousands of archeological sites;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, the natural habitat along the Mississippi
12 River supports one of the most crucial migratory
13 flyways in the United States for waterfowl, songbirds,
14 and birds of prey; and

15 WHEREAS, the natural resources of the Mississippi
16 River basin are the basis of farming, tourism,
17 fishing, and boating that bring millions of dollars to
18 local economies each year; and

19 WHEREAS, these tremendous natural resources are at
20 risk because the Mississippi Blufflands comprise the
21 fourth fastest-growing region of the United States in
22 terms of inappropriate development rather than
23 population growth; and

24 WHEREAS, many nonprofit conservation organizations
25 and public agencies in Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and
26 Illinois are working to balance this trend toward
27 development by helping owners of blufflands take
28 voluntary, permanent actions to conserve natural
29 areas; and

30 WHEREAS, support for blufflands owners is critical

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1 to conserving the Blufflands for future generations
2 because the vast majority of land along the
3 Mississippi River is privately owned; and

4 WHEREAS, additional outreach and funding would make
5 it possible for many more landowners in the
6 Mississippi Blufflands to perpetuate their families'
7 tradition of stewardship; NOW THEREFORE,

8 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, THE HOUSE OF
9 REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That the members of the
10 General Assembly of the State of Iowa express their
11 support of current multistate efforts to protect
12 important natural and scenic resources in the
13 Mississippi Blufflands.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Iowa's state and local
15 leaders are urged to increase their work with local
16 landowners to protect the Mississippi Blufflands and
17 to seriously consider establishing revolving funds to
18 make conservation efforts more timely and effective.

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