



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

100 East Erie Street
Chicago, IL 60611

Legislation Text

File #: 18-1030, **Version:** 1

RESOLUTION FOR BOARD MEETING OF OCTOBER 4, 2018

RESOLUTION sponsored by the Board of Commissioners recognizing the “Imagine a Day Without Water” campaign

WHEREAS, the “Imagine a Day Without Water” campaign, held October 10, 2018, is an organized effort to highlight the critical importance of reliable access to clean water in our lives and the investment in infrastructure that is necessary to protect this valuable resource; and

WHEREAS, the infrastructure that brings water to and from homes and businesses is essential to the quality of life and economic vitality of Cook County; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago treats wastewater for the equivalent of 10 million people (residential and industrial waste generated in Cook County) and manages storm water for the second-largest county in the country; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago plays a key role in protecting our drinking water supply, Lake Michigan; and

WHEREAS, staff from the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago will be visiting Space to Grow Schools to lead special presentations and activities about this campaign; and

WHEREAS, water crises across the country, ranging from contaminated water, drought, and flooding, show the severe impact of what can happen to public health and the well-being of a community without access to clean drinking water; and

WHEREAS, droughts, flooding, and other weather-related challenges put pressure on water systems that are ill-equipped and ill-prepared to manage such extreme events; and

WHEREAS, utilities nationwide are grappling with aging infrastructure and lack reliable revenue and funding to maintain their systems, and even more so when it comes to upgrading them; and

WHEREAS, one-fifth of the U.S. economy would grind to a halt without a reliable and clean source of water; and

WHEREAS, managing water responsibly is critical to our nation’s public and environmental health and to a high quality of life through economic commerce, power generation, and recreation; and

WHEREAS, investing in drinking water and wastewater systems will promote a bright and prosperous future for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, innovation in water conservation and water reuse will drive job growth, economic development, and establish a 21st century paradigm of water management in the United States; and

WHEREAS, decentralized storm water infrastructure will not only ease the burden on our sewers but will also

provide a maximum return in benefits to the public, the economy, and the environment; and

WHEREAS, for each job created in the water sector, another 3.68 jobs are added in the national economy. And for every \$1 spent on infrastructure improvements, the U.S. generates \$6 in returns; and

WHEREAS, different regions face different water challenges, so the solutions to strengthen our drinking water and wastewater systems must be locally driven, but reinvestment in our water must be a national priority; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Board of Commissioners of the Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, recognizes that water is essential to the quality of life and economic competitiveness, and acknowledge the importance of educating the public about the value of water through the "Imagine a Day Without Water" campaign; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be spread upon the permanent Record of Proceedings of the Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago.

Dated: October 4, 2018

Approved: MARIYANA T. SPYROPOULOS, President; BARBARA J. MCGOWAN, Vice President; FRANK AVILA, Chairman, Committee on Finance; KEN DUNKIN; MARTIN J. DURKAN; JOSINA MORITA; DEBRA SHORE; KARI K. STEELE; DAVID J. WALSH; Commissioners of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

Approved as to Form and Legality: Susan T. Morakalis, General Counsel