



## **Vote Yes on SB 1413**

### **Illinois Forestry Development Act**

- SB 1413 creates the Illinois Forestry Development Council and establishes the Council's responsibilities regarding forestry in Illinois.
- Increases the diversity of the Council by adding additional forestry and wildlife groups as members
- Provides an additional incentive for landowners to implement forest improvement practices following a timber harvest. All of the timber harvest fee now collected from their timber sale will be reimbursed when forest improvement practices are implemented.
  - Currently only half of the fee is returned.
  - The increased amount will encourage better practices on harvested land to
    - Promote Natural Regeneration of Oak/Hickory Forests
    - Reforestation (Replant)
    - Control Invasive Species
- Changes the minimum acreage requirement from 5 acres to 10 acres
  - The Conservation Stewardship Program was enacted to benefit forest landowners with smaller forested acreage.
  - The larger minimum acreage brings this program into compliance with other forestry programs, such as the Tree Farm Program.
  - Forest landowners currently in the FDA program whose forested acreage is between 5 and 10 acres will be protected and eligible for benefits under this Act.
- Changes the portion requiring the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) to contact Forestry Development Act landowners annually to once every two years – this reduces costs and demands on IDNR forestry staff