



LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVES  
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Preservation, Restoration, Education and Recreation

**DATE:** April 1, 2019

**TO:** Adam Didech, Chair  
Legislative Committee

**Agenda Item#** 9.4

**FROM:** Alex Ty Kovach  
Executive Director

**RECOMMENDATION:** Recommend approval of a Resolution approving an amendment to the 2019 Legislative Program for the Lake County Forest Preserve District to seek legislation amending the Downstate Forest Preserve District Act for the purpose of providing clear authority and means for the District to remove the President for cause (note: the original staff recommendation was “because of misconduct, chronic absences, incapacity, or any other reason”, but was changed to “for cause” by the Legislative Committee at its April 1, 2019, meeting).

**STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS SUPPORTED:** Organizational Sustainability; Leadership

**FINANCIAL DATA:** There is no financial impact.

**BACKGROUND:** In December, 2018, the District’s Rules Committee requested a legal opinion on whether the District could amend its Rules of Order and Operational Procedures to include a rule allowing the Board to remove a President from office.

At the March 25, 2019, Rules Committee meeting, Corporate Counsel Matthew Norton provided an opinion to the Rules Committee that the District has no clear authority to remove the President as stated above. He advised the Rules Committee that, if they desire to adopt such a rule, the District should first seek express statutory authority to do so from the General Assembly.

The Rules Committee requested that the Legislative Committee consider an amendment to the District’s 2019 Legislative Program, adding language that would authorize staff to work with the District’s Legislative Consultants, Strategic Advocacy Group, LLC, to seek such an amendment to the Downstate Forest Preserve District Act.

The specific amendment to the Legislative Program would be: “Establish authority for the District to remove its President from office by super-majority vote of the Board for cause.”

**REVIEW BY OTHERS:** Chief Operations Officer, Corporate Counsel.



**LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT  
LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM FOR 2019  
(REMOVAL OF PRESIDENT)**

**WHEREAS**, the Legislative Committee of the Lake County Forest Preserve District (the "District") Board of Commissioners prepares and recommends the annual Legislative Program for the District in accordance with the District's Rules of Order and Operational Procedures; and

**WHEREAS**, under the state and federal legislative processes and schedules, it is in the District's best interests for the Board of Commissioners to review and approve an annual legislative program for the District prior to the start of the calendar year in which the Legislative Program will be effective; and

**WHEREAS**, on November 3, 2018, the Board approved a resolution approving a legislative program for 2019 (the "Program"); and

**WHEREAS**, the Legislative Committee has recommended that the Program be amended to add the following objective under the "State Legislative Objectives" of the Program: "Establish authority for the District to remove its President from office by super-majority vote of the Board for cause" (the "Program Amendment");

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of the Lake County Forest Preserve District, Lake County, Illinois, THAT:

**Section 1: Recitals.** The recitals set forth above are incorporated as part of this Resolution by this reference.

**Section 2: Approval of Program Amendment.** The Program Amendment is hereby approved.

**Section 3: Effective Date.** This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval in the manner provided by law.

PASSED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2019.

AYES:

NAYS:

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2019.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Angelo Kyle, President  
Lake County Forest Preserve District

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Julie Gragnani, Secretary  
Lake County Forest Preserve District

Exhibit No. \_\_\_\_\_