



Legislation Text

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150198
ORIGINAL

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Resolution expressing the City of Milwaukee's opposition to a proposal to remove protections for Downer Woods and the Downer College buildings in the 2015-17 State Executive Budget. This resolution expressing the City of Milwaukee's opposition to a proposal to remove protections for Downer Woods and the Downer College buildings in the 2015-17 State Executive Budget. This resolution also calls upon the Legislature to maintain protections for the Downer Woods and the Downer College buildings.

Whereas, Downer Woods is an 11.1-acre preserve that borders N. Maryland and E. Edgewood Avenues on the UW-Milwaukee campus, and is the sole remaining natural area on the campus; and

Whereas, The Downer College buildings are a critical part of Milwaukee's history in that these buildings, with their distinct red color, are a representation of pre-Civil War era college architecture, of which fewer than 200 examples remain; and

Whereas, Downer Woods and the Downer College buildings are treasured by both UW-Milwaukee and surrounding communities as unique cultural and historical landmarks; and

Whereas, Downer Woods provides invaluable opportunities for recreation and scientific study, and add to the natural beauty of the UW-Milwaukee campus; and

Whereas, The 2015-17 State Executive Budget proposes to remove sections from ch. 36, Wis. Stats. (University of Wisconsin System) , which provide protections for the Downer Woods and the Downer College buildings as precious assets; and

Whereas, The sections proposed to be removed include provisions requiring that a portion of Downer Woods be designated as permanently reserved woodlands and provisions specifying that the buildings of the former Downer College be preserved and not be razed without prior approval of the State Building Commission; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee, that the Common Council expresses its opposition to the proposal in the 2015-17 State Executive Budget to remove protections for Downer Woods and the Downer College buildings; and, be it

Further Resolved That the Common Council calls upon the Legislature to maintain protections to Downer Woods and the Downer College buildings; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the City Clerk shall forward copies of this resolution to Governor Scott Walker and Milwaukee's delegation to the Wisconsin Legislature.

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Amy E. Hefter
5/14/2015