

Illinois Resources, Industry, and Pollution

Illinois is one of the richest states in the United States in terms of natural resources. This list includes major Illinois products that use natural resources.

Agriculture: corn (maize), soybeans, wheat, hay, milk, eggs, pigs, cattle, calves.

Mined: bituminous coal, crude petroleum, stone, sand and gravel, cement

(source: Compton's encyclopedia)

Based on this list, what are the natural resources of the state? Clearly we have land. There also is a wealth of mineral resources under the soil, particularly coal.

What's the issue? How can Illinois: increase the supply of products made from these Illinois resources and at the same time protect the environment from pollution? To answer that question, first choose one of the products. How could Illinois help the producers of that product? How could the production of that product lead to pollution? What law could the General Assembly pass that would help producers of this product and protect the environment?

Your Idea for the New Law to Increase Production and Reduce Pollution

You will need to persuade other legislators to support your new bill. Otherwise it won't become a law. List five reasons why other legislators should support your bill.

1. _____
2. _____
- 3.. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Who might oppose your bill? Think of at least one argument against your bill. Then tell how you would respond to that opposition.