

**SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 451**

**WHEREAS**, DarkSky Texas works to ensure the stars at night glow "big and bright" all across our state; and

**WHEREAS**, The Texas chapter of DarkSky International, DarkSky Texas encourages citizens and public officials to reduce light pollution in urbanized areas and keep rural night skies naturally dark; the group's volunteers raise awareness of the ways better lighting practices can restore our view of the nighttime sky, conserve energy, and improve the well-being of people and wildlife; and

**WHEREAS**, DarkSky Texas educates residents about the effects of outdoor lighting shining up toward the sky or onto properties where it is not wanted; it addresses the economic cost of excess and poorly aimed illumination, and it advocates for the elimination of glare and the use of warm-hued lighting properly shielded in order to enhance visibility by directing illumination only where it is needed; moreover, it stresses the negative impact of outdoor lighting that interferes with the scientific inquiry of astronomers; and

**WHEREAS**, Through its efforts, DarkSky Texas supports reduction of deaths among migrating birds, who play a vital role in agriculture as pollinators and consumers of harmful insects; the group is dedicated to the advancement of knowledge regarding the importance of natural darkness for both flora and fauna, as well as for the circadian rhythms of humans; and

**WHEREAS**, DarkSky Texas also promotes the opportunities afforded by dark sky tourism, exemplified by the popular weekly star parties conducted by the McDonald Observatory Visitors Center near Fort Davis; the organization fosters appreciation

for the many communities that have begun to feature the beauty of their clear nighttime views among their recreational assets; currently, more than 20 sites in the state are designated International Dark Sky Places; and

**WHEREAS**, The Lone Star State takes great pride in the brilliance of its night skies, and DarkSky Texas has demonstrated a steadfast commitment to preserving this magnificent heritage; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 89th Legislature, hereby recognize April 25, 2025, as Dark Sky Day and commend DarkSky Texas for its important work; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That an official copy of this Resolution be prepared for the organization as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on April 28, 2025.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate