

By: Blanco

S.R. No. 451

R E S O L U T I O N

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

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

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

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

1           WHEREAS, DarkSky Texas also promotes the opportunities  
2 afforded by dark sky tourism, exemplified by the popular weekly  
3 star parties conducted by the McDonald Observatory Visitors Center  
4 near Fort Davis; the organization fosters appreciation for the many  
5 communities that have begun to feature the beauty of their clear  
6 nighttime views among their recreational assets; currently, more  
7 than 20 sites in the state are designated International Dark Sky  
8 Places; and

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

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

16           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
17 prepared for the organization as an expression of high regard by the  
18 Texas Senate.