

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 42

WHEREAS, excessive and misdirected light is considered energy waste and misuse; and

WHEREAS, current research by the National Park Service indicates the rate at which light pollution is increasing will leave almost no dark skies in the contiguous U.S. by 2025; and

WHEREAS, many Missouri state parks have an impaired view of the night sky due to light pollution; and

WHEREAS, Missouri state facilities have the duty and responsibility to demonstrate best practices in energy conservation and reduce all visible signs of energy waste:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Missouri Senate, Ninety-fifth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the House of Representatives concurring therein, hereby urge all state departments to provide public education on light pollution and develop guidelines to address light pollution in new and existing state facilities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the director of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources is hereby requested to convene a group of stakeholders to study the current and projected impacts of light pollution on public health, energy consumption, state tourism, and resources including state parks, military bases, and wildlife. The director is requested to submit to the General Assembly a report and recommendations relating to the study on or before January 1, 2012; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the director of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources is hereby requested to convene a group of stakeholders, including the Lieutenant Governor and the director of the Division of Tourism, to identify premier public lands for star gazing and identify and assist interested communities surrounding these public lands in creating starlight preserves; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Missouri Senate be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution for the director of each state department.

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