

SCR002S01 compared with SCR002

~~{deleted text}~~ shows text that was in SCR002 but was deleted in SCR002S01.

Inserted text shows text that was not in SCR002 but was inserted into SCR002S01.

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Senator Evan J. Vickers proposes the following substitute bill:

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE USE OF SHIELDED LIGHT FIXTURES ON OUTDOOR LIGHTS

2018 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Evan J. Vickers

House Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This concurrent resolution encourages the use of shielded outdoor lighting to promote dark skies.

Highlighted Provisions:

This resolution:

- ▶ recognizes the harmful effects of light pollution;
- ▶ identifies the benefits of shielded outdoor lighting and dark skies; and
- ▶ encourages the transition from unshielded to shielded outdoor lighting.

Special Clauses:

None

SCR002S01 compared with SCR002

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah, the Governor concurring therein:

WHEREAS, the International Dark-Sky Association (IDA) estimates that ~~at least 30%~~ 30-60% of all outdoor lighting in the United States, which includes lighting for architecture, parking, landscaping, advertising, and streets, is wasted because of unshielded outdoor lights;

WHEREAS, when outdoor light is not shielded, the light is allowed to shine in various directions that are not of use, creating light pollution;

WHEREAS, light pollution is the artificial brightening of the night sky due light that escapes from poorly designed light fixtures;

WHEREAS, light pollution releases 21 million tons of carbon dioxide and costs \$3.3 billion per year;

WHEREAS, property owners and municipalities could reduce their power costs by discontinuing the use of unshielded light fixtures;

WHEREAS, humans and wildlife rely on the earth's daily cycle of light and dark, and research suggests that light pollution has a negative effect on sleep cycles;

WHEREAS, light pollution negatively impacts astronomers who rely on the darkness of skies to observe, study, and further scientific knowledge;

~~WHEREAS, while outdoor lighting is sometimes used to increase public safety, there is no clear scientific evidence showing increased outdoor lighting deters crime;~~

~~WHEREAS, a 1997 National Institute of Justice study concluded, "We can have very little confidence that improved lighting prevents crime," and another study by the City of Chicago found a correlation between increased crime and brightly lit alleyways;~~

~~WHEREAS, in 1999, the state of New Mexico passed legislation that required all outdoor light fixtures to adhere to IDA standards, which has successfully increased dark skies, which are areas where the darkness of the night sky is relatively free of interference from light pollution;~~

WHEREAS, IDA has a program that designates an "International Dark Sky Park" as an area possessing an exceptional or distinguished quality of starry nights and a nocturnal environment that is specifically protected for its scientific, natural, educational, or public enjoyment;

SCR002S01 compared with SCR002

WHEREAS, as of 2017, there are eight IDA-designated dark sky parks in Utah, and receiving additional designations could help promote the growing tourism industry by encouraging visitors who seek the benefits of dark skies; and

WHEREAS, adhering to IDA standards for outdoor lighting would help preserve and enhance the clarity of dark skies while maintaining safety, and move Utah toward a more sustainable future:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the Governor concurring therein, encourages Utahns to transition outdoor lighting from unshielded to shielded in accordance with IDA standards in order to preserve and enhance dark skies throughout the state.

~~{ BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature explore appropriate measures, with input from key stakeholders, that will encourage a complete transition to shielded outdoor lighting.~~

~~Legislative Review Note~~

~~Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel~~