



WHEREAS, the aesthetic beauty and wonder of natural dark skies at night are inherent to the character and allure of the State of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, exposure to artificial light at night has been scientifically linked to negative effects on the health and well-being of virtually all life studied—while natural dark skies at night have been scientifically linked to positive health effects; and

WHEREAS, using responsible outdoor lighting is an easy and effective way to cut out wasted energy use, complementing Colorado's leadership in pollution reduction and climate-smart action; and

WHEREAS, dark sky tourism—with an emphasis on responsible use of the night—is an emerging trend in Destination Stewardship and helps communities to preserve ecosystems, boost sustainable tourism, and protect Colorado's beautiful night skies; and

WHEREAS, Colorado's nighttime environment is treasured as both a natural and cultural resource; and

WHEREAS, restoring the natural night is best accomplished by turning off outdoor lights at night and by only using lighting that 1) has a clear purpose, 2) is shielded and directed only to where needed, 3) is no brighter than necessary, 4) is used only when needed, 5) consists of warmer color lights; and

WHEREAS, Colorado residents can enjoy the night and protect it at the same time, leveraging our view of the heavens for economic and environmental sustainability while combating climate change, improving human and ecosystem health, and contributing to social equity; and

WHEREAS, through dark sky education, outreach, practices and policies, a connection to the natural nighttime environment, which is the shared heritage of all living things, can be reestablished for present and future generations;

THEREFORE, I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim the month of June 2023 as,

DARK SKY MONTH

in the State of Colorado.

GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this first day of June, 2023



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jared Polis".

*Jared Polis
Governor*