

HOUSE BILL No. 2064

By Committee on Energy and Utilities

1-22

9 AN ACT enacting the night sky protection act; relating to light emissions
10 affecting luminance of the nighttime sky for certain protected places.

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12 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

13 Section 1. Sections 1 through 3, and amendments thereto, shall be
14 known and may be cited as the night sky protection act. The purpose of
15 this act shall be to reduce the amount of light emitted into the nighttime
16 sky to near natural levels for protected places.

17 Sec. 2. As used in this act:

18 (a) "Light emission" means the discharge or release of light into the
19 atmosphere.

20 (b) "Microcandela" means the unit of measurement that describes
21 the intensity of a light source.

22 (c) "Natural nighttime sky luminance," or "NNSL," means the lu-
23 minance of the nighttime sky for each protected place.

24 (d) "Protected place" means:

25 (1) Kansas state parks where overnight camping is allowed;

26 (2) wilderness areas belonging to the national wilderness preservation
27 system;

28 (3) the Cimarron nation grasslands;

29 (4) the Quivera national wildlife refuge;

30 (5) the tallgrass prairie national preserve; and

31 (6) any designated military night training area in the state.

32 (e) "Nighttime sky" means the sky overhead on a clear night.

33 (f) "Secretary" means the secretary of health and environment.

34 Sec. 3. (a) The secretary shall adopt rules and regulations establish-
35 ing voluntary guidelines for achieving the following:

36 (1) By 2025, no protected place will have a night sky luminance in
37 excess of 200% of the NNSL;

38 (2) 2025, 90% of protected places will have a night sky luminance of
39 less than 130% of the NNSL;

40 (3) by 2040, 90% of protected places will have a night sky luminance
41 of less than 120% of the NNSL; and

42 (4) by 2055, 90% of protected places will have a night sky luminance
43 of less than 110% of the NNSL.

1 (b) The secretary shall determine the natural nighttime sky lumi-
2 nance for each protected place based on environmental conditions.

3 (c) On or before the first day of each regular legislative session, the
4 secretary shall submit to the legislature a report on the sky luminance of
5 protected places in microcandela per square meter and forecasting the
6 sky luminance for each protected place one year, five years and 10 years
7 in the future.

8 Sec. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
9 publication in the statute book.