

## STATE OF NEW MEXICO EXECUTIVE OFFICE SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

## Proclamation

WHEREAS, the breathtaking beauty and profound wonder of a natural night sky is a cherished heritage shared by all humanity; and

WHEREAS, the experience of standing beneath a star-studded sky invokes feelings of awe and inspiration, fostering a deeper interest in science and nature, particularly among our youth and visitors to our vibrant communities in New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the pervasive issue of light pollution has been scientifically linked to significant economic and environmental consequences, adversely affecting the ecology and human health across all communities in New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, approximately 80 percent of the world's population, including many residents of New Mexico, live under a veil of light pollution—excessive artificial lighting that obscures the natural darkness—thereby diminishing their connection to the visual splendor and the ecological and health benefits that accompany a truly dark sky; and

WHEREAS, light pollution represents a staggering waste of natural resources, costing the United States roughly \$3 billion annually in wasted energy, while undermining our energy security; and

WHEREAS, Dark-Sky International, the recognized global authority on light pollution, observes International Dark-Sky Week to elevate awareness about the effects of light pollution, provide invaluable education, resources, and practical solutions for the public, and to promote the protection and enjoyment of dark skies along with responsible outdoor lighting practices.

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico, do hereby proclaim April 21-28, 2025, as:

"International Dark-Sky Week"

Attest:

Maggie Foulouse Oliver

Secretary of State

Done at the Executive Office this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 2025.

Witness my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Mexico.

Muhelle hujan Michelle Lujan Grisham

Governor