

Ryan Neustrom
Baton Rouge, LA/Jefferson, ME
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Good day,

As an amateur astronomy enthusiast with familial ties to Maine (the Baxter family), I wanted to voice support for Dark Skies legislation to enhance Maine's already pristine environmental and natural resources. Light pollution is costly, both financially and naturally. Naturally, light pollution negatively impacts migration patterns of Audubon's birds and many other species. It compounds the effects on birds via a food source, insect fatalities caused by insect exhaustion, increased predation, etc while flying around evening lighting (Doug Tallamy can shine a light on insect extinction issues in this great country and why we should all be concerned, but I digress). While we all need lights to live, work, and play, this legislation attempts to shield us, and other species, from some of the ills of unnecessary lighting. And as a fiscally prudent measure, light planning, especially extinguishing nonessential lighting, will save municipal coinage and potentially reduce some light glare/improve safety for motorists on State highways. Thank you for your consideration, from a Louisianan with a deep love and respect for Maine's roots, trees, skies, future.