



STATE OF NEW MEXICO EXECUTIVE OFFICE SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

# Proclamation

*WHEREAS, the aesthetic beauty and wonder of a natural night sky is a shared heritage of all humankind; and*

*WHEREAS, experiencing New Mexico's majestic, star-filled night skies from our deserts and mountains to our rural communities and Pueblos inspires awe, fuels curiosity, and encourages a lifelong interest in science, astronomy, culture, and nature among New Mexico's youth, residents, and the many visitors drawn to the Land of Enchantment; and*

*WHEREAS, light pollution has scientifically established economic, ecological, and public-health consequences, creating harmful impacts on wildlife, human well-being, and environmental systems across New Mexico's communities; and*

*WHEREAS, an estimated 80 percent of the world's population, including many New Mexicans, now lives beneath a dome of light pollution excessive and poorly shielded artificial lighting that diminishes natural darkness and limits the ability to experience the visual beauty and ecological benefits of a true dark sky; and*

*WHEREAS, light pollution represents a significant waste of natural resources, amounting to roughly \$3 billion per year in wasted energy in the United States and undermining long-term energy security, including in New Mexico; and*

*WHEREAS, New Mexico is home to nine certified Dark Sky Places, numerous world-class research and educational observatories, active amateur astronomy clubs, a rapidly expanding astrotourism industry, and a wide range of nocturnal species that depend on healthy nighttime environments for hunting, mating, migration, and survival; and*

*WHEREAS, DarkSky International, the globally recognized authority on light pollution, designates International Dark Sky Week to raise awareness of the impacts of light pollution, provide education and resources to communities, and promote the protection of dark skies and responsible outdoor lighting practices.*

*NOW THEREFORE, I, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico, do hereby proclaim April 13<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026, as:*

## **“International Dark Sky Week”**

*throughout the state of New Mexico.*

Attest:

*Maggie Dalouse Oliver*  
Maggie Dalouse Oliver  
Secretary of State

Done at the Executive Office this  
11<sup>th</sup> day of March 2026.

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

*Michelle Lujan Grisham*  
Michelle Lujan Grisham  
Governor

