

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 561

102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE PARKER.

2532H.02I

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

2 **WHEREAS**, on April 8, 2024, the moon will orbit between Earth and the sun and
3 obstruct the light of the sun, thus creating a total solar eclipse; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the last total solar eclipse visible in the continental United States
5 occurred in 2017; and

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7 **WHEREAS**, this total solar eclipse will travel across the continental United States
8 from Texas to Maine; and

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10 **WHEREAS**, the last total solar eclipse visible in Missouri occurred in 2017; and

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12 **WHEREAS**, the center of this solar eclipse will travel over Southeast Missouri,
13 including Butler and Dunklin counties; and

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15 **WHEREAS**, the moment when the moon's leading edge first obstructs the sun's light
16 and the moon begins to cast a partial shadow is called first contact; and

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18 **WHEREAS**, the moment when the moon's leading edge obstructs the other edge of
19 the sun and the moon first fully obstructs the sun and casts a full shadow is called second
20 contact; and

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22 **WHEREAS**, the moment when the trailing edge of the moon begins receding from
23 the sun's edge and the moon again casts a partial shadow is called third contact; and

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25 **WHEREAS**, the time between second contact and third contact when the moon
26 obstructs all of the sun's direct light is called the totality; and

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28 **WHEREAS**, during both the second contact and third contact when the sun is not
29 quite entirely obstructed by the moon, bits of sunlight will shine through only the valleys and
30 craters of the moon creating bright spots called Baily's beads; and

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32 **WHEREAS**, during the totality day turns to night, stars can be seen in the sky, insects
33 chirp, the temperature cools, the sun produces a halo effect around the black orb of the moon,
34 and the sky on the horizon in every direction is the color of a sunset; and

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36 **WHEREAS**, the moment when the moon's trailing edge fully passes away from the
37 sun and no longer casts any shadow is called fourth contact; and

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39 **WHEREAS**, first contact will occur at 12:39 P.M. over Butler and Dunklin counties
40 in Southeast Missouri; and

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42 **WHEREAS**, the time between first contact and fourth contact will be approximately
43 two hours and thirty-six minutes; and

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45 **WHEREAS**, the totality's greatest duration throughout Southeast Missouri will be
46 four minutes and six seconds; and

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48 **WHEREAS**, the rare event of a total solar eclipse will be an economic boon to the
49 state; and

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51 **WHEREAS**, thousands of special viewing glasses will be ordered for the multiple
52 eclipse-related events across Southeast Missouri; and

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54 **WHEREAS**, various communities throughout the state will host eclipse-related
55 celebrations, festivals, and activities; and

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57 **WHEREAS**, schools and colleges will plan eclipse-related education lessons and
58 events; and

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60 **WHEREAS**, no picture can do the experience of a total solar eclipse justice, and one
61 must be seen in person; and

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63 **WHEREAS**, the Southeast Missouri counties of Butler and Dunklin will be an ideal
64 location to view the 2024 total solar eclipse:

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66 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of
67 Representatives of the One Hundred Second General Assembly, First Regular Session,
68 hereby designate April 8, 2024, as "Total Solar Eclipse Day" in the State of Missouri; and
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70 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the citizens of and visitors to this state are
71 encouraged to observe the day with appropriate events and activities to witness the total solar
72 eclipse; and

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74 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution be sent to the Governor for his
75 approval or rejection pursuant to the Missouri Constitution.

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