

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

[PERFECTED]

# HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 561

## 102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE PARKER.

2532H.02P

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, Dunklin, Pemiscot, New Madrid, Mississippi, Stoddard, Scott, Cape  
14 Girardeau, Bollinger, Iron, Madison, Reynolds, Shannon, Howell, Ozark, Dent, St. Francois,  
15 Ste. Genevieve, Perry, and Douglas counties; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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41       **WHEREAS**, first contact will occur at 12:39 P.M. over Butler, Dunklin, Pemiscot,  
42 New Madrid, Mississippi, Stoddard, Scott, Cape Girardeau, Bollinger, Iron, Madison,  
43 Reynolds, Shannon, Howell, Ozark, Dent, St. Francois, Ste. Genevieve, Perry, and Douglas  
44 counties in Southeast Missouri; and

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

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

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52       **WHEREAS**, the rare event of a total solar eclipse will create an economic boom for  
53 the state; and

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

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

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61       **WHEREAS**, schools and colleges will plan eclipse-related education lessons and  
62 events; and

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

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67       **WHEREAS**, the Southeast Missouri counties of Butler, Dunklin, Pemiscot, New  
68 Madrid, Mississippi, Stoddard, Scott, Cape Girardeau, Bollinger, Iron, Madison, Reynolds,  
69 Shannon, Howell, Ozark, Dent, St. Francois, Ste. Genevieve, Perry, and Douglas will be an  
70 ideal location to view the 2024 total solar eclipse:

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72       **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of  
73 Representatives of the One Hundred Second General Assembly, First Regular Session,  
74 hereby designate April 8, 2024, as "Total Solar Eclipse Day" in the State of Missouri; and

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76       **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the citizens of and visitors to this state are  
77 encouraged to observe the day with appropriate events and activities to witness the total solar  
78 eclipse; and

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

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