



AMATEUR ASTRONOMERS ASSOCIATION

120 WARREN STREET

NEW YORK, NY 10007

To Whom It May Concern:

As president of the Amateur Astronomers Association of New York, on behalf of our board of directors and the over 300 members of our organization, I ask for your support of the *Healthy, Safe, and Energy Efficient Outdoor Lighting Act* (A07281/S02714).

As amateur astronomers we see the effect of wasted lighting first hand, as it washes out our view of the heavens. This is true not only in New York City but is becoming more apparent in suburban and even rural areas of our state.

But this issue affects all of us, not only astronomers. Poorly designed light fixtures waste energy on a massive scale. Given current geopolitical and environmental considerations, we should do all we can to reduce our energy requirements and in particular our reliance on oil. Fixtures which direct all their light downward do not waste light, and can deliver the same lighting capability with less wattage.

We realize how important good lighting at night is to pedestrians and drivers. We are not asking for anything that would compromise the safety of the public. Directing light downward where it is needed, and not upward where it only pollutes the night sky will yield a significant reduction in our energy requirements and costs.

I urge you to support A07281/S02714, as well as bills A7276, A5769, A5655 and A5656.

Sincerely,

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