



On EnCon
Agenda

ADIRONDACK COUNCIL
Defending the East's Greatest Wilderness

342 Hamilton Street, Albany, NY 12210 phone (518) 432-1770 www.adirondackcouncil.org

2009 Legislative Session

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

A. 7281 (Rosenthal) / S. 2714 (Thompson)

An act to amend the environmental conservation law and the public service law, in relation to enacting the healthy, safe and energy efficient outdoor lighting act.

The Adirondack Council supports this legislation which recognizes that the absence of artificial light in open space areas, such as the Adirondack Park, would benefit the tourist economy and the natural environment. Reducing artificial light in the Adirondacks would preserve the scenic character of the Park and would benefit natural flora and fauna that thrive in darker conditions.

The Adirondack Park is a tourist destination known for its pristine beauty and natural character. The reduction in artificial light would help to enhance this reputation and draw additional tourists to the Park, including those who are interested in viewing the night sky. In addition, many animal species native to New York State rely on the night sky to navigate during migration and breeding activities. Light pollution often obscures the ability of such animals to navigate properly, leading to the diminished numbers of such species, and even premature mortality.

This bill would also decrease air pollution in the Adirondack Park caused by the generation of electricity at fossil fuel power plants by decreasing demand through the use of energy efficient lighting. Decreased pollution will help to protect the Park's 2,800 lakes and ponds from further damage by acid rain.

For the above mentioned reasons, the Adirondack Council supports this legislation and urges its passage.

The Adirondack Council is a member based not-for-profit organization dedicated to ensuring the ecological integrity and wild character of the Adirondack Park.

For more information contact:
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