WHEREAS: The experience of standing beneath a starry night sky inspires feelings of wonder and awe, and encourages stewardship of our shared environment and our magnificent dark skies; and

WHEREAS: Dark skies are an integral aspect of the sustainability of Oregon’s wild ecosystems as a key environmental factor in bird migration, insect pollination, and human sleep patterns; and

WHEREAS: Oregon’s dark skies are a significant natural resource, with two accredited Dark Sky Places to date—Sunriver and Prineville Reservoir State Park; and

WHEREAS: Eastern Oregon holds the largest area of pristine night skies in the contiguous 48 states; and

WHEREAS: Astrotourism, including star gazing, astronomy star parties, and dark sky photography, is an evolving facet of outdoor recreation with real economic benefits for communities across Oregon, and which promotes the mitigation of light pollution; and

WHEREAS: International Dark Sky Week is observed in April on the week of the new moon.

NOW, THEREFORE: I, Kate Brown, Governor of the State of Oregon, hereby proclaim April 22-30, 2022 to be

**Oregon Dark Sky Week**

in Oregon and encourage all Oregonians to join in this observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the Great Seal of the State of Oregon to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Salem in the State of Oregon on this day, April 25, 2022.

Kate Brown, Governor

Shemia Fagan, Secretary of State