RESOULTION SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO PRESERVE NIGHT SKIES

WHEREAS, Edwards County residents recognize the Texas Hill Country for its diverse ecosystems, ethics for land stewardship, rich cultural heritage, and breathtaking scenic beauty; and

WHEREAS, the increased use of land for recreational and non-traditional agricultural uses in recent years has placed greater focus on the community economic and financial benefits of the region's scenic beauty, wildlife and open space, making activities such as tourism, outdoor recreation, hunting and fishing important to many community members; and

WHEREAS, due to the above-described increased use of land, accompanying light trespass from night lighting fixtures has been steadily on the rise, negatively impacting the natural environment and the quality of life of the peoples and wildlife in this region, by, among other things, reducing night sky visibility and enjoyment for landowners and visitors alike; and

WHEREAS, Edwards County is committed to supporting practices that limit or minimize light trespass from night lighting fixtures in order to protect the beauty of the night skies and allow other the full benefit and use of their private property.

NOW, THEREFORE, by action of the Edwards County Commissioners' Court at a duly noticed and held public meeting and as reflected in the minutes of the Court, be it resolved that Edwards County will encourage outdoor lighting fixtures and practices that follow up-to-date suggested guidelines and use available technologies for efficient, cost-effective, non-intrusive lighting and will work with its partners to educate and encourage landowners, businesses, resident communities and public entities to join this commitment to reduce energy consumption, save money, reduce light trespass and protect the health and well-being of wildlife and people.

PRESENTED and APPROVED by the Edwards County Commissioners' Court this 13th day of November 2018.

County Judge Souli Asa Shanklin

Commissioner William Epperson, Precinct #1

Commissioner Matt Fry, Precinct #3 Commissioner Lee Sweeten,

Precinct #2

Commissioner Andrew Barnebey

Precinct #4

County District Clerk Olga Lydia Reyes