**South Carolina General Assembly**

126th Session, 2025-2026

**H. 3991**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

House Resolution

Sponsors: Reps. Wetmore, Alexander, Anderson, Atkinson, Bailey, Ballentine, Bamberg, Bannister, Bauer, Beach, Bernstein, Bowers, Bradley, Brewer, Brittain, Burns, Bustos, Calhoon, Caskey, Chapman, Chumley, Clyburn, Cobb-Hunter, Collins, B.J. Cox, B.L. Cox, Crawford, Cromer, Davis, Dillard, Duncan, Edgerton, Erickson, Forrest, Frank, Gagnon, Garvin, Gatch, Gibson, Gilliam, Gilliard, Gilreath, Govan, Grant, Guest, Guffey, Haddon, Hager, Hardee, Harris, Hart, Hartnett, Hartz, Hayes, Henderson-Myers, Herbkersman, Hewitt, Hiott, Hixon, Holman, Hosey, Howard, Huff, J.E. Johnson, J.L. Johnson, Jones, Jordan, Kilmartin, King, Kirby, Landing, Lawson, Ligon, Long, Lowe, Luck, Magnuson, Martin, May, McCabe, McCravy, McDaniel, McGinnis, Mitchell, Montgomery, J. Moore, T. Moore, Morgan, Moss, Murphy, Neese, B. Newton, W. Newton, Oremus, Pace, Pedalino, Pope, Rankin, Reese, Rivers, Robbins, Rose, Rutherford, Sanders, Schuessler, Sessions, G.M. Smith, M.M. Smith, Spann-Wilder, Stavrinakis, Taylor, Teeple, Terribile, Vaughan, Weeks, White, Whitmire, Wickensimer, Williams, Willis, Wooten and Yow

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Introduced in the House on February 13, 2025

Adopted by the House on February 13, 2025

Summary: Lights Out Nights in SC

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

2/13/2025 House Introduced and adopted ([House Journal‑page 36](h:\hj\20250213.docx))

View the latest  [legislative information](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=3991&session=126&summary=B)  at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[02/13/2025](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/3991_20250213.docx)

A house RESOLUTION

TO DECLARE THE NIGHTS OF MARCH THROUGH MAY AND AUGUST THROUGH OCTOBER AS “LIGHTS OUT NIGHTS IN SOUTH CAROLINA SEASON” AND TO URGE SOUTH CAROLINA RESIDENTS TO TURN OUT NONESSENTIAL LIGHTS AT NIGHT DURING THESE CRITICAL PERIODS IN THE SPRING AND FALL FOR THE PROTECTION OF BIRDS IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, every spring and fall, millions of birds travel through the coastal areas on their migration and millions stop to refuel in the maritime forests, marshes, and greenspaces of South Carolina; and

Whereas, eighty percent of migratory songbirds travel at night to avoid daytime predators and to use celestial cues for navigation; and

Whereas, migrating birds are affected by light pollution as it disorients them, making them vulnerable to collisions with buildings and structures; and

Whereas, sixty percent of birds that strike buildings and structures at night die as a result, including those that appear to recover and fly away but days later succumb to their injuries; and

Whereas, research has shown that eliminating nonessential interior and exterior lighting between eleven in the evening and dawn can prevent collisions; and

Whereas, South Carolina is a State known for its natural beauty, rich biodiversity, and commitment to conservation, with many communities recognizing the importance of protecting birds and wildlife; and

Whereas, rapid population growth and development across South Carolina have contributed to increased light pollution, making it imperative to adopt responsible lighting practices; and

Whereas, Audubon South Carolina and the affiliated chapters of the South Carolina Audubon Society support Lights Out programming that encourages state, municipal, residential, and commercial building owners, operators, managers, and tenants to turn off, dim, or redirect excess lighting during the spring and fall migration periods to provide safe passage for birds; and

Whereas, reducing light pollution benefits mental and physical health in humans, benefits insect populations that are in decline, and facilitates stargazing. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, declare the nights of March through May and August through October as “Lights Out Nights in South Carolina Season” and urge South Carolina residents to turn out nonessential lights at night during these critical periods in the spring and fall for the protection of birds in South Carolina.

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