

# House Bill 3319

Sponsored by Representative HUDSON

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Directs State Department of Energy, in consultation with Department of Land Conservation and Development, to study light pollution and provide results of study in report to interim committees of Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2022.

Sunsets January 2, 2023.

Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1 Relating to light pollution; and prescribing an effective date.

2 Whereas light pollution presents serious risks to human and animal health and also has negative  
3 consequences for the global climate and public finances and quality of life; and

4 Whereas according to researchers at the National Institutes of Health, the American Medical  
5 Association and Harvard Medical School, there is evidence that light pollution may cause adverse  
6 health outcomes including cancer and emotional and behavioral issues, such as depression and sleep  
7 disorders; and

8 Whereas sensitive and shoreline habitats and migrating species are particularly vulnerable to  
9 the effects of light pollution; and

10 Whereas light pollution affects all types of communities; and

11 Whereas it is estimated that 99 percent of Americans and almost half of the land surface of the  
12 United States is affected by light pollution, according to the journal Science Advances; and

13 Whereas light pollution is estimated to be increasing by an average of almost 6 percent annually  
14 worldwide, while it is increasing by up to 20 percent annually in some regions, according to the  
15 journal Ecology and Society; and

16 Whereas the United States Department of Energy estimates that local governments on average  
17 could cut spending on electricity by more than half by improving the efficiency of public lighting;  
18 and

19 Whereas the National Park Service has calculated that a poorly designed light fixture can waste  
20 50 percent of the light it emits; and

21 Whereas there is no unified federal regulatory policy for light pollution in the United States,  
22 although many other countries have national laws regulating light pollution; and

23 Whereas at least 18 states have laws relating to light pollution, according to the National  
24 Conference of State Legislatures; now, therefore,

25 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

26 **SECTION 1. (1)(a) The State Department of Energy, in consultation with the Department**  
27 **of Land Conservation and Development, shall study light pollution in Oregon. The study shall**  
28 **include consideration of:**

29 **(A) The Model Light Ordinance developed by the International Dark-Sky Association; and**  
30

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted.  
New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1       **(B) The laws of other states and countries.**

2       **(b) In conducting the study, the State Department of Energy and the Department of Land**  
3 **Conservation and Development may solicit input from other state agencies or organizations**  
4 **with experience relevant to light pollution.**

5       **(2) The State Department of Energy shall provide the results of the study in a report to**  
6 **the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to energy in the manner provided**  
7 **under ORS 192.245 no later than September 15, 2022.**

8       **SECTION 2.** **Section 1 of this 2021 Act is repealed on January 2, 2023.**

9       **SECTION 3.** **This 2021 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2021**  
10 **regular session of the Eighty-first Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.**

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