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March 9, 2016

## **Arizona Night Skies Are Under Threat!**

Dark night skies are one of Arizona's true treasures. They contribute to an astronomy, planetary and space science enterprise that adds more than \$250 million to the state's economy each year. Visitors from far and wide come to not only enjoy the beautiful daytime vistas Arizona offers, but also to marvel at the night sky, feeding a growing 'astrotourism' market.

Unfortunately, legislation currently before the Arizona State Senate endangers the integrity of dark night skies across the state.

In 2012 Arizona legislators crafted a compromise, agreeable to dark skies advocates, to allow Electronic Message Centers (EMCs) only in certain parts of the state and with limits on the brightness and operating hours of these electronic billboards.

HB 2507 would unravel the 2012 compromise by extending the reach of EMCs in western Arizona, doubling the territory in which they would be permitted under A.R.S. §28-7902(E). Efforts to weaken any terms of the compromise undermine the entire compromise.

You can read the entire text of HB 2507 at:  
<https://legiscan.com/AZ/text/HB2507/id/1298972>

EMCs put night skies at risk because their highly-directional light is aimed sideways, scattering light into the night sky. And they can't be shielded like lighting on conventional billboards.

This legislation threatens Arizona's dark skies. There are still two opportunities to stop the bill: in the Senate committee, or in front of the entire Senate.

We urge you to contact your State Senator communicating your opposition to HB 2507.