

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



PA 23-143—sHB 6607

Environment Committee

AN ACT CONCERNING THE NIGHTTIME LIGHTING OF STATE-OWNED BUILDINGS AT CERTAIN TIMES FOR THE PROTECTION OF BIRDS

SUMMARY: This act requires nonessential outdoor lighting at state-owned buildings to be turned off between 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. The shut-off requirement applies to lighting that a state agency head determines is not essential for safety or functionality, but not to lighting at the State Capitol building.

The act also requires the state building inspector and the Code and Standards Committee to consider a change in lighting design to effectuate this outdoor lighting requirement when making changes to the State Building Code that take effect on or after January 1, 2024.

Existing law, unchanged by the act, generally prohibits using state funds to install or replace permanent outdoor lights or lighting units on state building or facility grounds that (1) fail to maximize energy conservation and minimize light pollution; (2) emit more light than is minimally needed for their intended purposes; or (3) have an output of more than 1,800 lumens (the unit for measuring a light source's brilliance) unless it is a unit that allows no direct light emissions above a certain point (CGS § 4b-16).

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage