AN ACT

1 Providing for management of outdoor night lighting.

2 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

3 hereby enacts as follows:

4 Section 1. Short title.

5 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Outdoor

6 Lighting Control Act.

7 Section 2. Findings.

8 The General Assembly finds that fully shielded lighting units

9 considerably reduce light pollution. The General Assembly

10 further finds that the replacement of unshielded lighting units

11 with fully shielded lighting units can result in substantial

12 lowering in the wattage of the lamp needed to maintain an

13 equivalent level of lighting on the ground, thereby realizing a

14 considerable energy savings to the Commonwealth. Therefore, it

15 is in the public interest to require the use of fully shielded

16 lighting units to the maximum extent possible.
Section 3. Definitions.

The following words and phrases when used in this act shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Direct light." Light emitting generally in a downward direction by a lamp, off a reflector or through a refractor of a lighting unit.

"Fully shielded lighting unit." A lighting unit that is constructed in such a manner that all light emitted, either directly from the lamp or indirectly by reflection or refraction from any part of the lighting unit, is projected below the horizontal.

"Glare." Direct light emitted by a lighting unit that causes reduced visibility of objects or momentary blindness.

"Lamp." The component of a lighting unit that produces light.

"Light pollution." General sky glow caused by the scattering of artificial light in the atmosphere.

"Lighting unit." A complete lighting unit, including a lamp or lamps together with the parts designed to distribute the light, to position and protect the lamps and to connect the lamps to the power supply.

"Lumen." A specific standard unit of measurement of luminous flux.

"Outdoor light fixtures." Outdoor artificial illuminating devices, installed or portable, used for flood-lighting, roadway and area lighting, general illumination or advertisement.

"Partially shielded lighting unit." A lighting unit that is constructed in such a manner that more than zero but less than 10% of the light emitted, either directly from the lamp or...
indirectly by reflection or refraction from any part of the
lighting unit, is projected above the horizontal.

"Permanent outdoor lighting unit." Any fixed lighting unit
or system of lighting units that is outdoors and that is
intended to be used for seven days or longer.

"Roadway lighting." Permanent outdoor lighting units that
are specifically intended to illuminate roadways for automotive
vehicles.

"Unshielded lighting unit." A lighting unit that is
constructed in such a manner that more than 10% of the light
emitted, either directly from the lamp or indirectly by
reflection or refraction from any part of the lighting unit, is
projected above the horizontal.

Section 4. Outdoor lighting control.

(a) Permanent outdoor lighting unit installation.--The
installation of any new or replacement permanent outdoor
lighting unit by or for a State agency shall meet the following
conditions:

(1) The new or replacement unit shall be a fully
shielded lighting unit if the rated output of the lighting
unit is greater than 1,800 lumens.

(2) The minimum allowance specified by an applicable
recommendation or regulation shall be used. The average
minimum allowance adequate for the intended purpose shall be
used if no lighting recommendation or regulation is
applicable, giving full consideration to energy conservation
and glare.

(3) Reflectorized roadway markers, lines, warning signs,
informational signs or other passive means shall be utilized
for roadway lighting except at intersections of two or more
streets or highways unless it is determined that the purpose of the lighting installation or replacement cannot be achieved by these means.

(4) Adequate consideration shall be given to conserving energy and minimizing glare and light pollution.

(b) Exceptions.--The following instances shall be exempt from the requirements of subsection (a):

(1) Where Federal laws, rules or regulations preempt State regulations.

(2) Where fire, police, rescue or repair personnel need light for temporary emergencies or road repair work.

(3) Where there are special requirements, such as sports facilities, historic decorative considerations or flag lighting. All such lighting shall be selected and installed to shield the lamp or lamps from direct view to the greatest extent possible and to minimize upward lighting and light pollution.

(4) Where there is substantial nighttime pedestrian traffic in an urban area and an engineer experienced in outdoor lighting has deemed it necessary to permit the installation of partially shielded lighting units.

(5) Where it has been determined that a reasonable safety and security interest exists that cannot be addressed by another method without increasing the cost or reducing the effectiveness of the lighting.

(c) Implementation.--The Governor shall be responsible for the implementation of this section.

Section 5. Dark Sky Preserve.

(a) Designation.--The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources shall identify and designate Cherry Springs State Park
in Potter County as a Dark Sky Preserve.

(b) Management.--The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources shall manage Cherry Springs State Park in a manner to eliminate or prevent light pollution and preserve the exceptional conditions necessary for astronomical observations.

Section 6. Applicability.

The provisions of this act shall not supersede any other Federal or State law controlling lighting, light fixtures or units, signage, outdoor advertising, displays or devices.

Section 7. Effective date.

This act shall take effect in 60 days JULY 1, 2002.