House Concurrent Resolution Nos. 32 & 33

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

AN ACT

Relating to the designation of Total Eclipse Day in Missouri.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

WHEREAS, on August 21, 2017, the moon will orbit between the earth and the sun and
2 obstruct the light of the sun, thus creating a total solar eclipse; and

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4   **WHEREAS**, the last total solar eclipse visible in the continental United States occurred
5 in 1979; and

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7   **WHEREAS**, this total solar eclipse will travel across the continental United States from
8 Oregon to South Carolina; and

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10   **WHEREAS**, the last total solar eclipse visible in Missouri occurred in 1869; and

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12   **WHEREAS**, the center of this solar eclipse will travel directly from St. Joseph, Missouri
13 to Perryville, Missouri, and the moon will cast a seventy-mile-wide shadow over many cities and
14 counties in Missouri including the cities of Rock Port, Savannah, Kansas City, Chillicothe,
15 Richmond, Carrollton, St. Louis City, Sullivan, St. Clair, Pacific, Blue Springs, Velda Village
16 Hills, Owensville, Belle, Vienna, Westphalia, Linn, Affton, Marshall, Moberly, Sedalia,
17 Columbia, Jefferson City, Chesterfield, Farmington, and Cape Girardeau; and

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19   **WHEREAS**, the moment when the moon's leading edge first obstructs the sun's light
20 and the moon begins to cast a partial shadow is called first contact; and

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22   **WHEREAS**, the moment when the moon's leading edge obstructs the other edge of the
23   sun and the moon first fully obstructs the sun and casts a full shadow is called second contact;
24   and

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26   **WHEREAS**, the moment when the trailing edge of the moon begins receding from the
27   sun's edge and the moon again casts a partial shadow is called third contact; and

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29   **WHEREAS**, the time between second contact and third contact when the moon obstructs
30   all of the sun's direct light is called the totality; and

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32   **WHEREAS**, during both the second contact and third contact when the sun is not quite
33   entirely obstructed by the moon, bits of sunlight will shine only through the valleys and craters
34   of the moon creating bright spots called Baily's Beads; and

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36   **WHEREAS**, during the totality day turns to night, stars can be seen in the sky, insects
37   chirp, the temperature cools, the sun produces a halo effect around the black orb of the moon,
38   and the sky on the horizon in every direction is the color of a sunset; and

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40   **WHEREAS**, the moment when the moon's trailing edge fully passes away from the sun,
41   and the moon no longer casts a shadow is called fourth contact; and

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43   **WHEREAS**, first contact will occur at 11:40 A.M. on the western border of Missouri
44   and at 11:51 A.M. on the eastern border of Missouri; and

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46   **WHEREAS**, the time between first contact and fourth contact will be approximately two
47   hours and fifty-five minutes; and

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49   **WHEREAS**, the totality's Greatest Duration is located so that the length of the totality
50   throughout all of Missouri will be within two seconds of the Greatest Duration: two minutes and
51   forty seconds; and

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53   **WHEREAS**, the rare event of a total solar eclipse will be an economic boon to the state;
54   and

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56   **WHEREAS**, over an estimated one million people will travel to Missouri to experience
57   this total solar eclipse; and

58   **WHEREAS**, counties along the path of the eclipse expect to double and triple their
59 populations for the day; and
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61   **WHEREAS**, hotel rooms are already fully booked, public viewing areas have been
62 designated, buses have been chartered, and small businesses are gearing up for large crowds; and
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64   **WHEREAS**, Rosecrans Memorial Airport in St. Joseph was reserved as a viewing area
65 five years in advance of the eclipse; and
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67   **WHEREAS**, over one million special viewing glasses have been ordered for the multiple
68 eclipse-related events across Missouri; and
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70   **WHEREAS**, hundreds of people across the state have worked for two years in
71 anticipation of the economic opportunity the total solar eclipse presents to the state by holding
72 meetings, providing educational packets to schools, and creating events to inform the public; and
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74   **WHEREAS**, various communities throughout the state will host eclipse-related
75 celebrations, festivals, and activities; and
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77   **WHEREAS**, schools and colleges are planning eclipse-related education lessons and
78 events; and
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80   **WHEREAS**, no picture can do the experience of a total solar eclipse justice, and one
81 must be seen in person; and
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83   **WHEREAS**, Missouri is an ideal location to view the 2017 total solar eclipse:
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85   **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of
86 Representatives of the Ninety-ninth General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate
87 concurring therein, hereby designate August 21, 2017, as "Total Eclipse Day" in the State of
88 Missouri; and
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90   **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the citizens of and visitors to this state are
91 encouraged to observe the day with appropriate events and activities to witness the total solar
92 eclipse; and
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94   **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution be sent to the Governor for his
95   approval or rejection pursuant to the Missouri Constitution.

<p align="center">✓</p>