

# House Concurrent Resolution No. 33

## 99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE LAVENDER.

1837H.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

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### AN ACT

Relating to the designation of Total Eclipse Day in Missouri.

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

1           **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 the cities of  
14 Rock Port, Savannah, Kansas City, Chillicothe, Marshall, Moberly, Sedalia, Columbia, Jefferson  
15 City, Chesterfield, Farmington, and Cape Girardeau; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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54           **WHEREAS**, over an estimated half million people will travel to Missouri to experience  
55 this total solar eclipse; and

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57           **WHEREAS**, counties along the path of the eclipse expect to double and triple their  
58 populations for the day; and

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60           **WHEREAS**, hotel rooms are already fully booked, public viewing areas have been  
61 designated, buses have been chartered, and small businesses are gearing up for large crowds; and  
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63           **WHEREAS**, Rosecrans Memorial Airport in St. Joseph was reserved as a viewing area  
64 five years in advance of the eclipse; and  
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66           **WHEREAS**, Faurot Field at the University of Missouri - Columbia has sold out its  
67 seventy-one thousand seats for viewing the eclipse; and  
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69           **WHEREAS**, over five hundred thousand special viewing glasses have been ordered for  
70 the multiple eclipse-related events across Missouri; and  
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72           **WHEREAS**, hundreds of people across the state have worked for two years in  
73 anticipation of the economic opportunity the total solar eclipse presents to the state by holding  
74 meetings, providing educational packets to schools, and creating events to inform the public; and  
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76           **WHEREAS**, various communities throughout the state will host eclipse-related  
77 celebrations, festivals, and activities; and  
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79           **WHEREAS**, schools and colleges are planning eclipse-related education lessons and  
80 events; and  
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82           **WHEREAS**, no picture can do the experience of a total solar eclipse justice, and one  
83 must be seen in person; and  
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85           **WHEREAS**, Missouri is an ideal location to view the 2017 total solar eclipse:  
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87           **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of  
88 Representatives of the Ninety-ninth General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate  
89 concurring therein, hereby designate August 21, 2017, as "Total Eclipse Day" in the State of  
90 Missouri; and  
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92           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the citizens of and visitors to this state are  
93 encouraged to observe the day with appropriate events and activities to witness the total solar  
94 eclipse; and  
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96           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution be sent to the Governor for his  
97 approval or rejection pursuant to the Missouri Constitution.

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