

# Proclamation

**WHEREAS,** every spring and fall, nearly two billion birds travel through the State of Texas – a number that represents between a quarter and a third of all birds migrating throughout the United States; and

**WHEREAS,** it is important to recognize that this massive migration of birds occurs at night; and

**WHEREAS,** these birds must contend with a rapidly increasing but still under-recognized threat: light pollution; as light attracts and disorients these migrating birds, confusing them and making them vulnerable to collisions with buildings and other urban threats; and

**WHEREAS,** more than one billion birds die in collisions with buildings in the United States annually; and

**WHEREAS,** the extensive and intense and increasing light pollution from Texas cities, combined with the enormous bird migration, creates a particularly hazardous environment; and

**WHEREAS,** Lights Out Texas is a statewide initiative that aims to raise awareness of this issue and is led by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and former First Lady and founder of Texan By Nature, Laura Bush; and

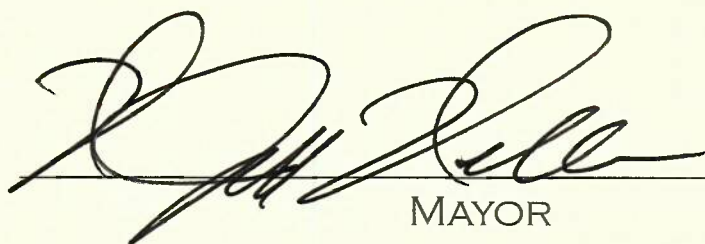
**WHEREAS,** the City of Arlington is a community that cares about protecting wildlife and the environment; and

**WHEREAS,** Arlington is joining an international Lights Out effort by proposing and implementing a simple solution to protect birds: encouraging residents to turn off non-essential lighting during critical migration periods to allow birds to safely proceed along their journeys.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, W. Jeff Williams, Mayor of the City of Arlington, Texas, and on behalf of the Arlington City Council, do hereby proclaim the period of April 19<sup>th</sup> through May 7<sup>th</sup> in Arlington as**

## LIGHTS OUT NIGHTS FOR BIRD SAFETY

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City to be affixed this 19<sup>th</sup> day of April in the year of Our Lord two thousand and twenty-one.*

  
MAYOR

