

Submitter: Heather Pittman

On Behalf
Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Veterans, Emergency Management, Federal
and World Affairs

Measure: SB1548

Doctors have agreed that Standard Time is better for everyone's health and sleep patterns, not just those of us that know we suffer on the Daylight Savings Time clock, the entire time we're on it and for a few more weeks before we re-adjust to the natural order of things.

If you do your homework, you'll see that America did try permanent Daylight Savings Time in 1974 (signed into law December 1973, took effect in January 1974); it was supposed to be for 2 years, but the law was repealed in October of that same year because people found it unbearable to go to work and school in the dark for so much of the year. There were also 8 children involved in pre-dawn car accidents in Florida alone (source Time Magazine article March 17, 2022). While the vast majority of people agree that we should stop changing the clocks, there are still many who question whether returning to Standard Time year-round is best. I would urge them to look at our national history on this point and learn from it.

Health and safety should come first. It's already been thoroughly proven that permanent Daylight Savings Time doesn't help with either of those priorities.

It's also been debunked that it saves any significant amount of energy (because the adjusted heating and cooling needs overtake any significant lighting energy savings, but many of those promoting year-round Daylight Savings Time fail to make that adjustment when arguing over the already very small purported "savings").

The whole thing was started by a snarky letter published anonymously by Benjamin Franklin. It was never supposed to be taken seriously. All it really achieves is enriching the entertainment and tourism entries; I do wish them success, but that's just not a good enough reason to continue to sacrifice the health and safety of everyone.

Let's return to permanent Standard Time and common sense.