Submitter: Lindsey Marsh

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure: SB1548

I want to continue to express my strong opposition to this bill. This is a very divisive issue affecting every Oregonian which should not be unilaterally decided by Senators. Many people have expressed concern about the time difference between Washington and Oregon. I too express that concern, as I frequently have to work in Washington - my day should not have to be extended to 6 pm simply because people are annoyed with having to change time once per year. Voting yes on this bill literally steals time from Oregon and Washington citizens.

But even if a trigger clause is added to the bill, it is clear that most people prefer permanent daylight savings time. That is what this legislature already agreed to back in 2019. One of the main reasons why DST is preferred is because (1) we are on that time for a longer period during the year (8 months from March to the beginning of November). It makes not sense to chose the time that we are only on for four months out of the year. (2) DST is also preferred because people can use more of their time AFTER work, rather than in the morning. Gaining hours in the morning (which is the only purpose standard time would serve) does not benefit the community because the vast majority of people are waking up in the morning to go to work. Oregonians would rather capture that time in the afternoon and evening so they can spend that time with their family, outdoors, and have more daylight for other community activities like youth sports.

Many people always point to the "health benefits" of "ditching the switch." Those claims seem overexaggerated at best, and ignore the significant healthy impacts of keeping permanent standard time, including prolonging seasonal depression because the days stay darker.

No one wants 4 am sunrises just like no one wants 9 am sunrises. The right thing to do is to keep the status quo, especially when people have passionate and opposite opinions on the subject.