

Submitter: Christina Brow
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure: SB1548

I strongly urge you to oppose SB 1548, which would put Oregon on Standard Time year-round.

I too would love to stop changing the clocks twice a year. However, being on Standard Time in the summer would result in students and all those working 9-5 type jobs effectively losing 238 hours of precious usable daylight (an hour a day from ~ March 10th through November 3rd) each year. It's the time after work/school, not before, that is truly ours for family time, self-care, hobbies, and enjoying the beautiful Oregon landscape. Standard time year-round would mean fewer and shorter bike rides, trips to the park, after work jaunts to the Gorge, etc., all the things us Oregonians hold so dear and look forward to after our long wet winters.

Being on permanent standard time would also put most of Oregon 4 hours behind the US East coast instead of 3. This would impart much additional difficulty for any person or business in Oregon conducting business on the East coast. I am thinking in particular about financial and asset management professionals who work Wall Street hours, but even on an individual level this would be problematic because most large call support centers are on the east coast.

There are also restaurants in Oregon to consider. Since the pandemic, many have been able to maintain and even expand their business through addition of outdoor seating. Fewer daylight hours in the evening will undoubtedly decrease the number of people who frequent restaurants in the summer evenings because sitting outside in the dark is not as appealing as sitting outside in the evening summer sun.

For these and so many other reasons, I urge you to oppose the bill to put Oregon on standard time permanently.