

Submitter: Patricia Johnson

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB566

To: Senate Committee on Veterans, Emergency Management, Federal and World Affairs

From: Patricia Johnson

Re: "No" on SB 566

Dear Chair Manning, Vice Chair Thatcher, and members of the Committee:

Passage of this bill would keep Oregon aligned with Washington and California if they both choose to remain on Pacific Standard Time all year. If both Washington and California choose to remain on Pacific Daylight Time all year, Oregon would be out of alignment with them four months out of the year.

This bill implies Oregonians would prefer to remain on permanent Standard Time. An October 2024 YouGov Survey nationwide reveals that 32% of respondents prefer permanent Daylight Saving Time, 18% prefer permanent Standard Time, 17% prefer changing the clocks twice a year, and 33% either don't have a preference or are not sure of their preference. https://ygo-assets-websites-editorial-emea.yougov.net/documents/Daylight_Savings_Time_poll_results.pdf These results are consistent across all demographics, including geographic region.

Keeping Daylight Saving Time does not preclude early risers from waking up at sunrise. I think most early risers, however, would agree that awakening at 4:30 a.m. in the summer if their workday starts at 8:00 a.m. would not add any appreciable benefit to their lives. Most of us start to get ready for work shortly after we wake up. There are very few of us who have the ability to participate in recreation at 4:30 a.m. We are still expected to be at work on time.

The practice of changing our clocks twice a year has been around for decades. Standard Time and Daylight Saving Time used to be evenly split at six months each. The last compromise resulted in four months of Standard Time and eight months of Daylight Saving Time. My preference would be permanent Daylight Saving Time, but I believe we should maintain the current compromise. A majority of people will continue to be unhappy with time changes, but it maintains longer evening light most months of the year while ensuring school-age children have some light while they walk to school or their bus stops during the darkest months of the year. I urge a "no"

vote on this bill.