

I am writing in opposition to SB 99 and SB 690. Daylight Saving Time is actually a much more natural way of measuring time. Its aim is to keep clock noon as close to the midday zenith of the sun as possible. Throughout time, humans and many other animals have relied on “high noon” to measure their days. Having a time system that does not correspond to this natural fact of the world makes no sense. And being at the 45 parallel on the globe, Oregon benefits most from the change of the clock. Daylight Saving Time helps keep our clocks closer in balance to natural, solar time.

Accordingly, people, much like other animals, adjust quickly to the change because it is a natural occurrence. Whining about one hour of lost sleep a year, or having to change what few manual clocks are left is a foolish reason to defy nature. And, many of us much prefer to have more daylight when we get home in the evenings than fret over a slightly darker early morning.

And of course, there is the disruption to business and personal life of having a time that does not correspond with our time zone or our neighbors. I have friends in Arizona, and when I call I never know what time it is there. Leaving customers from other states (especially in Clark County, WA) wondering when they could call or stop in at businesses in Oregon is absurd and unproductive. Having to change our watches and clocks every time we go to Vancouver is a ridiculous suggestion.

While I oppose both bills, the citizens should be given the chance to express their opinions about the state messing with our clock and time zone. If the Rules Committee honestly feels one should make it out of committee, it should only be SB 99.

Nearly all of the developed countries of the world uses Daylight Saving Time at some point in their year. Daylight Saving Time has been a proposal for as long as there have been clocks with minute hands. And there is a good reason for that long history - it makes sense, and it is now stare decisis. Thank you.

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