

March 12, 2019

To: [Senate Committee On Business and General Government](#)
[Senator Chuck Riley](#), Chair

Re: [SB 320](#) Abolishes annual daylight savings time changes **Comments**

Speaking as a private citizen, I support efficiency in government. This bill, relating to time standards; provides for a referral to voters, abolishing our annual one-hour change in time from standard time to daylight saving time and would maintain Oregon on year-round daylight saving time.

I am not advocating for either time schedule. The March 6 National Conference of State Legislatures, [Is Twilight Approaching For Daylight Saving Time](#), points to split national support for daylight savings time, with 26 states now questioning it. There is agreement, however, echoed here today, that switching work and family scheduling, clocks, farming, with documented health-related stress, for these spring and fall transitions, is unpopular, and bears examination.

Oregon is in a timely west coast conversation with California, Washington, and British Columbia, with calls for a consistent, shared west coast time. There is a strong call for cooperation in this discussion:

- The [Washington House legislation voted last weekend](#) to halt the transition, 89 to 7.
- See the [LWV of California Proposition 7 \(passed\) information page](#). Their one minute video points to benefits of sharing a time zone with neighboring states, with positions for both schedules.
- [Premier John Horgan, British Columbia, has written to each of our western states to build cooperation](#), citing our shared economic interests. I see merit in being in sync with our neighbors.

Daylight savings time started during WWI to save energy. Scientific American in 2007 asked, [Does Daylight Saving Time Conserve Energy?](#) listing concerns, including a 5% increase in myocardial infarction rates during the week following transitions.

[Does Daylight Saving Save Electricity? A Meta-Analysis](#)

Author: Havranek, Tomas ; Herman, Dominik ; Irsova, Zuzana. The Energy Journal, 04/01/2018, Vol.39(2)

Description: The original rationale for adopting daylight saving time (DST) was energy savings. **Modern research studies, however, question the magnitude and even direction of the effect of DST on electricity consumption.** Representing the first meta-analysis in this literature, we collect 162 estimates from 44 studies and find that the mean reported estimate indicates slight electricity savings: 0.34% during the days when DST applies. The literature is not affected by publication bias, but the results vary systematically depending on the exact data and methodology applied. Using Bayesian model averaging we identify the most important factors driving the heterogeneity of the reported effects: data frequency, estimation technique (simulation vs. regression), and, importantly, the latitude of the country considered. Electricity savings are larger for countries farther away from the equator, while subtropical regions consume more electricity because of DST. Keywords: Daylight saving time, Energy savings, Bayesian model averaging, Meta-analysis, Publication bias

Identifier: ISSN: 01956574 ; DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.5547/01956574.39.2.thav>

I laud the bill sponsors for raising the issue and urge reaching a cooperative agreement with our west coast neighbors. Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

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