

Submitter: Brian Hines

On Behalf
Of:

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

Measure: SB1548

Committee Members, I strongly oppose SB 1548. Daylight Saving Time is preferred by most Americans, according to national polls. Permanent standard time is only used by two states, Arizona and Hawaii, both of which are much sunnier and farther south than Oregon. Being able to spend more time outdoors for eight months of the year after work or school is an Oregonian value that would go away if this bill were to become law. At the least, a change to Daylight Saving Time needs extensive discussion and public involvement that isn't possible in a short legislative session. Please reject this bill. I'm copying in part of a blog post I wrote last night about this issue. It provides a further explanation of why I'm opposed to the bill. I wasn't able to include an image showing that according to a 2022 poll, two-thirds of Americans favor either permanent Daylight Saving Time or keeping the current system. Only one-third supported permanent standard time.

One of the worst bills introduced in this year's short legislative session calls for Oregon to move to permanent standard time, thereby doing away with the much-beloved (by me and many others) daylight saving time.

This is a horrible idea.

State Senator Kim Thatcher of Keizer introduced Senate Bill 1548, which hopefully will have a well-deserved legislative death. Senator Deb Patterson, who represents part of the Salem area, is a co-sponsor of the bill. I hope she comes to her senses.

Oregon already has passed legislation calling on Congress to allow our state, along with Washington and California, to be on permanent daylight saving time. This would have several benefits: no more changing of clocks twice a year, more light in the late afternoon and early evening when most people want to be outside after work or school.

National polls show that most Americans prefer permanent daylight saving time.

Two-thirds of those polled said they prefer daylight saving time in some form, permanent or part of the year, with just one-third preferring permanent standard time.

We'll be returning to daylight saving time on March 10. I can hardly wait. It's great to be able to walk our dog in the late afternoon when the sun is still shining brightly, instead of close to or after it sets. My mood perks up when daylight saving time

returns.

Sure, it's a bit of an inconvenience to switch clocks twice a year. I adjust to the change in sleep pattern quite easily, though I realize others have more of a problem with this. Well, the solution for them is to press Congress to approve the request of Oregon, Washington, and California to make daylight saving time permanent in the west coast states.

It sure isn't to pass unpopular legislation making standard time permanent. The only states that have done this are Hawaii and Arizona. Note their characteristics: they have lots of sun and are much farther south than Oregon!

There's no way Senate Bill 1548 should even have a hearing, much less be considered a serious legislative proposal.

This subject deserves a lot of consideration and public input. Given the popularity of daylight saving time, it's much better to do nothing and preserve the status quo where Oregon enjoys daylight saving time for part of the year, than to rush into permanent standard time.