

Submitter: April Oelke
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure: SB1548

Dear Sirs/Madam,

I am writing to express my concern with this measure. As a lifelong Oregonian, having watched many people leave our beautiful state, especially recently, our beautiful late summers and fall are surely a large part what keep people here. As you are all well aware, Oregon is difficult from November ~ February. It is dark on our commute home, it's cloudy and often raining. Some might say depressing. As we sit today in late February, where we are getting momentary hints of what is to come, the thoughts of our afternoons and evenings being longer is what gets many of us through our dismal winters. Our kids play softball, baseball, and run track after school, and thankfully, we have enough daylight, after the wonderful clock change to do so. Our summer evenings are spent outside, enjoying the fruits of our long winter and spring, the sun cools off and we can enjoy eating outside longer. Fall is glorious. The weather is near perfect and we still have daylight after school and work to enjoy it. Daylight Savings time allows us to enjoy our beautiful state in it's most perfect time of year.

An argument I have heard is that kids will be in the dark waiting for the bus in the winter. Our kids ARE in the dark, coming home on the bus in the winter. It doesn't change that. I was advised someone's religious preferences were the impetus for this measure. Our first amendment to our constitution states , "Congress should make no law respecting an establishment of religion." This has no place in our state. You are free to pray as you wish, when you wish, whatever the weather. I find this immensely troubling that we would even consider this change under that pretense. There is no benefit for the vast majority of Oregonians. This 50 year old Oregonian has been changing the clocks her whole life, I would like to keep doing so in order to protect Daylight Savings Time.

Thank you for your attention and appreciation of my concerns. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to reach out to me.

April Oelke
caaelke@gmail.com
503-701-2332