
SENATE BILL 6220

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By Senators Honeyford and Mullet

Read first time 01/10/18. Referred to Committee on State Government,
Tribal Relations & Elections.

1 AN ACT Relating to uniform standard time for the state of
2 Washington; adding a new section to chapter 1.20 RCW; adding a new
3 section to chapter 43.330 RCW; creating a new section; repealing RCW
4 1.20.051; and providing an effective date.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the state of
7 Washington would benefit from the consistency and predictability of
8 observing a standard time throughout the calendar year. Research has
9 shown that changing to and from daylight saving time twice per year
10 has negative impacts on public health, increases traffic accidents
11 and crime, disrupts agriculture scheduling, and hinders economic
12 growth. Scientific studies have connected a number of health
13 consequences with the act of switching between standard time and
14 daylight saving time, including greater risks of heart attacks, more
15 frequent workplace injuries, and increased suicide rates in the days
16 immediately following the switch. Therefore, the legislature intends
17 to exercise the rights granted under the uniform time act, 15 U.S.C.
18 Sec. 260a(a), and exempt the state of Washington from daylight saving
19 time.

20 The legislature finds further that there have been other
21 political subdivisions within the United States that have changed

1 their time zone over the years to create more consistency across the
2 United States for convenience of commerce. Therefore, it would be
3 beneficial for the state of Washington to conduct a review of its
4 time zone to determine whether or not changes are necessary for the
5 convenience of commerce so that the state may apply for a change in
6 time zone through the United States department of transportation, if
7 appropriate.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 1.20 RCW
9 to read as follows:

10 The time of the state of Washington, for the entire calendar
11 year, is the zone designated by the United States department of
12 transportation for the state of Washington under the uniform time
13 act, 15 U.S.C. Secs. 261 and 263, as determined by reference to
14 coordinated universal time.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 43.330
16 RCW to read as follows:

17 (1) The department is directed to review impacts the state time
18 zone and daylight saving time have on commerce in the state of
19 Washington.

20 (2) Beginning December 1, 2018, and every two years thereafter,
21 the department must report their findings and recommendations
22 regarding a change in the state time zone to the appropriate
23 committees of the legislature. The report must include:

24 (a) A summary of changes in the time zones of other political
25 subdivisions that may affect convenience of commerce in Washington
26 state;

27 (b) The percentage of residents that work outside of Washington
28 state or leave their community for schooling and what state or
29 standard of time is observed in the places where they go for these
30 purposes;

31 (c) An overview of where businesses get their supplies and ship
32 their goods or products;

33 (d) A summary of locations that provide media services to each
34 county in the state of Washington;

35 (e) A summary of airport, bus, and passenger rail services
36 provided to each community in the state; and

1 (f) Other major elements of this state's economy and any plans
2 for economic development in the state that may impact the convenience
3 of commerce.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** RCW 1.20.051 (Daylight saving time) and
5 1963 c 14 s 1 & 1961 c 3 s 1 are each repealed.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Section 2 of this act takes effect March
7 10, 2019.

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