
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5139

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Senate State Government, Tribal Relations & Elections (originally sponsored by Senators Honeyford, Hunt, Van De Wege, Fortunato, and Pedersen)

READ FIRST TIME 02/22/19.

1 AN ACT Relating to daylight saving time in Washington state;
2 amending RCW 1.20.051 and 35A.21.190; creating a new section;
3 repealing RCW 1.20.050; and providing a contingent effective date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the state of
6 Washington would benefit from the consistency and predictability of
7 observing a standard time throughout the calendar year. Research has
8 shown that changing to and from daylight saving time twice per year
9 has negative impacts on public health, increases traffic accidents
10 and crime, disrupts agriculture scheduling, and hinders economic
11 growth. Scientific studies have connected a number of health
12 consequences with the act of switching between standard time and
13 daylight saving time, including greater risks of heart attacks, more
14 frequent workplace injuries, and increased suicide rates in the days
15 immediately following the switch. In addition, there have been other
16 political subdivisions within the United States that are petitioning
17 congress for year-round daylight saving time or changed their time
18 zone over the years to create more consistency across the United
19 States for convenience of commerce. Therefore, the legislature
20 intends to observe daylight saving time year-round if authorized by
21 the United States congress; and also review the potential impact the

1 time zone has on communities along the border between Washington and
2 other states to determine whether the state should seek authorization
3 through the United States department of transportation to change
4 Washington state to mountain standard time year-round if year-round
5 daylight saving time is not authorized by congress.

6 **Sec. 2.** RCW 1.20.051 and 2018 c 22 s 2 are each amended to read
7 as follows:

8 ~~((At two o'clock antemeridian Pacific Standard Time of the second
9 Sunday in March each year the time of the state of Washington shall
10 be advanced one hour, and at two o'clock antemeridian Pacific
11 Standard Time of the first Sunday in November in each year the time
12 of the state of Washington shall, by the retarding of one hour, be
13 returned to Pacific Standard Time.))~~ (1) The standard time for the
14 state is permanent daylight saving time year-round.

15 (2) Permanent daylight saving time within the state is that of
16 the fifth zone designated by federal law as Pacific standard time, 15
17 U.S.C. Secs. 261 and 263, advanced by one hour.

18 **Sec. 3.** RCW 35A.21.190 and 1967 ex.s. c 119 s 35A.21.190 are
19 each amended to read as follows:

20 No code city shall adopt any provision for the observance of
21 daylight saving time other than as authorized by RCW ~~((1.20.050 and))~~
22 1.20.051.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** RCW 1.20.050 (Standard time—Daylight
24 saving time) and 1953 c 2 s 1 are each repealed.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** (1) Section 2 of this act takes effect on
26 the second Sunday in March in the year following the effective date
27 of legislation passed by United States congress amending 15 U.S.C.
28 Secs. 260a to authorize states to observe daylight saving time year-
29 round.

30 (2) The department of commerce must provide notice of the
31 effective date of section 2 of this act to affected parties, the
32 chief clerk of the house of representatives, the secretary of the
33 senate, the office of the code reviser, and others as deemed
34 appropriate by the department.

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