
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO GATHER AND
COMPILE INFORMATION ON DAYLIGHT SAVINGS AND ITS EFFECT ON
CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENERGY-USE REDUCTION.

1 WHEREAS, the concept of Daylight Savings Time (DST) was
2 introduced by statesman Benjamin Franklin, in an essay entitled,
3 "An Economical Project for Diminishing the Cost of Light," first
4 published in the "Journal de Paris" in April 1784; and
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6 WHEREAS, observance of DST has a long history in the United
7 States, having been codified in 1918, repealed in 1919,
8 reestablished in 1942, and standardized by the Uniform Time Act
9 of 1966; and
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11 WHEREAS, over 70 foreign countries have historically
12 observed and continue to observe some form of DST; and
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14 WHEREAS, the Uniform Time Act of 1966 does not mandate
15 observance of DST, allowing local exemptions; and
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17 WHEREAS, since Indiana adopted observance of DST in 2006,
18 Arizona and Hawaii are the only two states that do not observe
19 DST; and
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21 WHEREAS, there are several potential benefits that can be
22 derived from observing DST; and
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24 WHEREAS, DST has been an integral part of energy policy
25 during periods of "energy crisis," including the years
26 encompassing World War II and the two years following the 1973
27 Oil Embargo; and
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29 WHEREAS, California asked for federal approval to move to a
30 year-round DST in 2001-2002 due to the state's energy crisis;
31 and



1 WHEREAS, studies done by the United States Department of
2 Transportation show that observance of DST has led to a small
3 but significant energy savings nationally; and
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5 WHEREAS, 25 percent of all electricity used in the average
6 home is for lighting and small appliances including TVs, VCRs,
7 and stereos, mostly consumed during the evening hours; and
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9 WHEREAS, the slight increase in morning energy use during
10 DST is offset by the energy savings afforded during evening
11 hours when the bulk of energy resources are consumed; and
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13 WHEREAS, additional hours of daylight during the evening
14 also encourages families to plan and engage in more outside
15 activities, increasing potential energy savings; and
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17 WHEREAS, various studies conducted by the United States
18 Department of Transportation also indicate that incidents of
19 violent crime decrease during DST; and
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21 WHEREAS, a 2007 study by the RAND Corporation entitled,
22 "Short and Long Run Effects of Daylight Savings Time on Fatal
23 Automobile Crashes" found a decrease in crashes involving
24 pedestrians by 8 to 11 percent and a decrease in crashes
25 involving vehicular occupants only by 6 to 10 percent during
26 DST; and
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28 WHEREAS, the effects of DST observance certainly vary from
29 location to location; and
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31 WHEREAS, Hawaii is an island state in a unique geographic
32 location and requires energy-efficient solutions to serve our
33 special circumstances; now, therefore,
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35 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
36 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
37 of 2009, that the Legislative Reference Bureau (LRB) is
38 requested to gather and compile information on DST and its
39 effect on climate change and energy-use reduction, with the
40 intent to provide the Legislature with relevant data to address
41 the issue of implementing DST in Hawaii; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that LRB is requested to report its
2 findings to the Legislature no later than 20 days prior to the
3 convening of the Regular Session of 2010; and

4
5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
6 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the Legislative
7 Reference Bureau.

