
ENGROSSED 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, 35A.21.190, and 35A.21.190; adding a new
3 section to chapter 1.20 RCW; creating a new section; repealing RCW
4 1.20.051 and 1.20.050; providing a contingent effective date; and
5 providing for submission of this act to a vote of the people.

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

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

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

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

10 ~~((At two o'clock antemeridian Pacific Standard Time of the second
11 Sunday in March each year the time of the state of Washington shall
12 be advanced one hour, and at two o'clock antemeridian Pacific
13 Standard Time of the first Sunday in November in each year the time
14 of the state of Washington shall, by the retarding of one hour, be
15 returned to Pacific Standard Time.))~~ (1) The standard time for the
16 state of Washington is the zone designated by the United States
17 department of transportation for the state of Washington under the
18 uniform time act, 15 U.S.C. Secs. 261 and 263, as determined by
19 reference to coordinated universal time.

20 (2) The standard time within the state shall advance by one hour
21 commencing at two o'clock antemeridian on the second Sunday in March
22 each year and ending at two o'clock antemeridian on the first Sunday
23 in November each year.

24 (3) If the United States congress amends 15 U.S.C. Sec. 260a to
25 authorize states to observe daylight saving time year-round, it is
26 the intent of the legislature that daylight saving time be the year-
27 round standard time of the entire state and all of its political
28 subdivisions.

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

31 No code city shall adopt any provision for the observance of
32 daylight saving time other than as authorized by RCW ~~((1.20.050 and))~~
33 1.20.051.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 1.20 RCW
35 to read as follows:

36 (1) The standard time for the state is permanent daylight saving
37 time year-round.

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

4 **Sec. 5.** RCW 35A.21.190 and 2019 c . . . s 3 (section 3 of this
5 act) are each amended to read as follows:

6 No code city shall adopt any provision for the observance of
7 daylight saving time other than as authorized by ((~~RCW 1.20.051~~))
8 section 4 of this act.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** RCW 1.20.051 (Daylight saving time) and
10 2019 c . . . s 2 (section 2 of this act), 2018 c 22 s 2, 1963 c 14 s
11 1, & 1961 c 3 s 1 (Initiative Measure No. 210, approved November 8,
12 1960) are each repealed.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** RCW 1.20.050 (Standard time—Daylight
14 saving time) and 1953 c 2 s 1 are each repealed.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** (1) Sections 4 through 6 of this act take
16 effect on the second Sunday in March in the year following the
17 effective date of legislation passed by United States congress
18 amending 15 U.S.C. Secs. 260a to authorize states to observe daylight
19 saving time year-round.

20 (2) The department of commerce must provide notice of the
21 effective date of sections 4 through 6 of this act to affected
22 parties, the chief clerk of the house of representatives, the
23 secretary of the senate, the office of the code reviser, and others
24 as deemed appropriate by the department.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** The secretary of state shall submit this
26 act to the people for their adoption and ratification, or rejection,
27 at the next general election to be held in this state, in accordance
28 with Article II, section 1 of the state Constitution and the laws
29 adopted to facilitate its operation.

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