

Assembly Joint Resolution

No. 56

Introduced by Assembly Member Longville

March 29, 2000

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 56—Relative to daylight saving time.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

AJR 56, as introduced, Longville. Daylight saving time.

This measure would memorialize the President and the Congress to enact legislation to allow states the opportunity to choose year-round daylight saving time, in addition to standard time or the current system of “traditional” daylight saving time.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, On March 19, 1918, the United States first
2 implemented daylight saving time when “An act to
3 preserve daylight and provide standard time for the
4 United States” (Public Law 89-387) was enacted by the
5 United States Congress as the Uniform Time Act of 1966
6 (Title 15, United States Code, Section 260 and following);
7 and

8 WHEREAS, The Uniform Time Act of 1966 required
9 standard time to be observed within established time
10 zones; and

11 WHEREAS, The Uniform Time Act of 1966 provided
12 for “daylight saving time” and declared that it begins on

1 the last Sunday in April and ends on the last Sunday in
2 October; and

3 WHEREAS, The states were provided, under the
4 Uniform Time Act of 1966, with the option of exempting
5 themselves from daylight saving time and thereby
6 placing the whole state on standard time all year-round;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, In 1972, the Uniform Time Act of 1966 was
9 amended by Public Law 92-267 to allow states that are
10 split by a time zone to exempt one of the parts in a
11 different time zone from daylight saving time; and

12 WHEREAS, In 1974, Congress enacted a trial period of
13 year-round daylight saving time beginning on January 6,
14 1974, and ending on April 27, 1975; and

15 WHEREAS, In 1986, Congress modified daylight saving
16 time so that it begins the first Sunday in April rather than
17 the last Sunday in April; and

18 WHEREAS, Due to the vast geographic area of the
19 United States, encompassing several time zones and
20 many longitudes and latitudes, even within a single state,
21 many states have large disparities in what time coincides
22 with the onset of darkness; and

23 WHEREAS, In House of Representatives Report No.
24 99-185 from the Committee on Energy and Commerce,
25 numerous benefits are listed in support of the extension
26 of daylight saving time, including significant energy
27 conservation, improved traffic safety, reduction in crime,
28 economic growth, and overwhelming public support; and

29 WHEREAS, Congressional history provides precedent
30 for modifying the times and options prescribed by the
31 Uniform Time Act of 1966 and daylight saving time to
32 allow some flexibility; now, therefore, be it

33 *Resolved by the Assembly and Senate of the State of*
34 *California, jointly,* That the Legislature of the State of
35 California respectfully memorializes the United States
36 Congress and the President of the United States to enact
37 legislation to allow states the opportunity to choose
38 year-round daylight saving time, in addition to standard
39 time or the current system of “traditional” daylight
40 saving time; and be it further

1 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly
2 transmit copies of this resolution to the President and
3 Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the
4 House of Representatives, and to each Senator and
5 Representative from California in the Congress of the
6 United States.

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