

State of Vermont

Senate Chamber



Montpelier, Vermont

Joint Senate Resolution

By Senators Lyons, Cummings, Ingram, and Pollina,

J.R.S. 28. Joint resolution demanding that Congress abolish daylight saving time.

Whereas, the natural rhythm of daily life is set in accordance with the rising and setting of the sun, and

Whereas, before the 20th century, time in the United States was at the discretion of local communities, but they usually devised a time framework that was solar based, and

Whereas, as the nation entered the second decade of the 20th century, interstate passenger and freight rail service faced a plethora of local time changes as the trains steamed across the countryside, and

Whereas, to bring sanity to their daily operations, in 1912, the railroads established time zones for their operational purposes, and

Whereas, the Standard Time Act of 1918, 15 U.S.C. § 260, mandated time zones and unfortunately also included daylight saving time, but recognizing the error of its ways, Congress wisely repealed this second element of the law in 1919, and

Whereas, year-round daylight saving time was introduced in the War Time Act of 1942, 56 Stat. 9, and then promptly repealed late in 1945, and

Whereas, Congress, having not learned from past experience, enacted seasonal daylight saving time in 1966 with the Uniform Time Act, 15 U.S.C. § 260a, for a time-span lasting from the last Sunday in April to the last Sunday in October, extended it in 1986 to start on the first Sunday in April, and in 2007 this ill-advised practice was illogically lengthened to begin on the second Sunday in March and end on the first Sunday in November, and

Whereas, by extending daylight saving time to start before the arrival of the vernal equinox and end after the autumnal equinox, Congress made a colossal mistake, and

Whereas, farmers are forced to change their routines as dairy cows are oblivious to a change in the artificial human clock, and

Whereas, the delayed sunrise in March forces more children to travel to school in the dark, and

Whereas, the supposed energy savings that would result in the 2007 extension have not proven accurate, and

Whereas, daylight saving time is an unnecessary intrusion on nature's clock, and its drawbacks far outweigh any alleged advantages, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly demands that Congress abolish daylight saving time and return the nation's clocks to the auspices of the world's premiere timekeeper, the sun, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Congressional Delegation.