

# SAVE STANDARD TIME

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2021 February 9

Kansas House of Representatives Federal & State Affairs Committee Topeka, Kansas 66612

Re: HCR-5008: Oppose—Amend to Standard Time

Dear Honorable Legislators,

Thank you for your commitment to the well-being of all in Kansas. I write on behalf of my nonprofit to ask you oppose HCR-5008, to refer it to the Health, Safety, and Education Committees, and to recommend its amendment to permanent Standard Time (draft amendment attached).

HCR-5008 seeks permanent Daylight Saving Time (DST), which science and history show to be more harmful than clock change. Permanent Standard Time can instead improve the health, safety, education, and economy of the general public, with better sleep and preservation of morning sunlight.

Scores of organizations representing thousands of scientists/doctors and millions of teachers/parents oppose permanent DST and endorse permanent Standard Time. These include the Missouri Sleep Society, National PTA, National Safety Council, American Academy of Sleep Medicine, American College of Chest Physicians, American College of Occupational & Environmental Medicine, Start School Later, American Academy of Dental Sleep Medicine, and Society for Research on Biological Rhythms.<sup>[AASM][CSC][ESRS][RIVM][SRBR]</sup>

For several years, the CDC has classified sleep deprivation as a nationwide epidemic.<sup>[Jin]</sup> Springing clocks forward to DST acutely deprives sleep. Leaving clocks forward on DST chronically deprives sleep (average 19 minutes nightly). An hour delay of sunrise each day (such as by DST) manifests as statistically significant increases in accidents, diseases (cancers up 12– 36%), and healthcare costs, and as statistically significant decreases in education, productivity, and wages (down 3–5%). It's not just clock change that harms. Standard Time preserves morning sunlight, when human biology needs it most.<sup>[AASM][Borisenkov][CSC][Curtis][ESRS][Gibson][Giuntella][Gu][Jenkins][Juda][RIVM][Roenneberg][SRBR][Watson]</sup>

Scientific polling shows strong public support to end clock change, with slight preference for Standard Time.<sup>[AP]</sup> History shows public support for permanent DST reverses to opposition once its dark winter mornings are experienced.<sup>[BBC][Ripley][Yorkshire]</sup> Permanent DST would delay Kansas sunrises to 8:59am, and past 8am up to 4.6 months. Biologists urge school should start no earlier than 8am or 8:30am Standard Time—which is 9am or 9:30am DST. Permanent DST

would undo the benefits of starting school later, and disrupt parents' work hours.<sup>[Cell Press][Skeldon & Dijk]</sup> Standard Time keeps Kansas sunrises before 8am, when most work/school starts,<sup>[CDC][Silver]</sup> for healthier sunlight exposure, circadian alignment, sleep, alertness, immunity, and productivity.

Please listen to history and to the consensus of biologists and teachers. Oppose HCR-5008 until it is amended to permanent Standard Time.

Sincerely yours,

Jay Pea Save Standard Time PO Box 40238 San Francisco, California 94140 jay@SaveStandardTime.com +1-415-484-3458

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### House Concurrent Resolution NO. 5008 – Amended to Standard Time

- A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the US Congress to abolish Daylight Saving Time and restore permanent Standard Time for the whole nation.
- WHEREAS, The Congress of the United States has adopted various versions of Daylight Saving Time since 1918, when the policy originated to support the war industries; and
- WHEREAS, Continuous Daylight Saving Time was observed during World War II, referred to as War Time, and was reinstated during the 1973 oil embargo, and it greatly unpopular and detrimental to health and safety each time; and
- WHEREAS, Daylight Saving Time is a policy issue for many states; and
- WHEREAS, State legislation that provides for advances in time or changeover dates is superseded to the extent it differs from federal law under 15 U.S.C. § 260a; and
- WHEREAS, The United States Secretary of Transportation enforces uniform application of 15 U.S.C. § 260a across all time zones; and
- WHEREAS, Arizona, except for its Navajo Nation residents, Hawaii and the insular territories are exempt from the biannual time changes; and
- WHEREAS, Without congressional action or individual state opt-out, Daylight Saving Time resumes on the second Sunday in March every year and ends on the first Sunday in November every year; and
- WHEREAS, Standard Time as currently defined by federal law provides a practical approximation of natural solar time; and
- WHEREAS, The consensus of doctors, scientists, and experts in chronobiology, neurology, endocrinology, psychology, immunology, and other medical fields, and the consensus of teachers and children's advocates, is that only permanent Standard Time provides the best and most practical conditions for the public's sleep quality, physical health, mental well-being, roadway safety, workplace safety, workplace productivity, and learning capabilities; and
- WHEREAS, History shows only permanent Standard Time provides the most sustainable conditions for public support: Now, therefore,
- *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas, the Senate concurring therein:* That the Kansas legislature urges the Congress of the United States to abolish Daylight Saving Time and restore permanent Standard Time for the whole nation; and
- *Be it further resolved:* That the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives shall send an enrolled copy of this resolution to the presiding officers of each chamber of Congress, each member of Congress from Kansas, and to the office of General Counsel of the United States Department of Transportation.

## "Permanent Standard Time is the only fair, viable option.

"Permanent Daylight Saving could create real health/safety issues. Humans require adequate morning light so that our internal biological rhythms synchronize properly to local time. Lack leads to metabolic disorders, depression, cardiovascular disease..."

## Chancellor Gene Block PhD, UCLA Prof Johanna Meijer PhD, Leiden University

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## "The human circadian system does not adjust to Daylight Saving Time.

Sleep becomes disrupted, less efficient, and shortened. Permanent Standard Time is the healthier, more natural choice."

## Nathaniel F Watson MD MSc

Neurology Professor, University of Washington, Seattle https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6557642/

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## Most work/school starts at 8am. How would you rather start your day half the year?



Permanent Standard Time is the safest, healthiest, quickest end to clock change.

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8:03am average school start in the US. CDC, US ED, SASS, 2015. https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6430a1.htm 7:55am median work arrival in the US. 538, ACS, USCB, 2014. https://fivethirtyeight.com/features/which-cities-sleep-in-and-which-get-to-work-early/

## "Cancer rates significantly increase when sunrise is later.

"Permanent DST would make sunrise later, while permanent Standard Time would make sunrise closer to body time."

### **Nicolas Cermakian PhD**

President, Canadian Society for Chronobiology

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"National PTA is opposed to Daylight Saving Time during the winter months because of the safety factor."

Heidi May Wilson

Spokesperson for the National Parent Teacher Association

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## Endorsements of Permanent Standard Time as the Better Year-Round Clock

The following parties reject permanent Daylight Saving Time and endorse permanent Standard Time as the better year-round clock. These are not implied to be endorsements of the Save Standard Time entity.

#### Organizations (non-comprehensive list)

National PTA National Safety Council American College of Chest Physicians National School Boards Association **B-Society** American Academy of Dental Sleep Medicine European Sleep Research Society Agudath Israel of America Society of Anesthesia & Sleep Medicine German Teachers' Association French Society for Sleep Research & Medicine National Commission for the Rationalization of Spanish Hours California Islamic University Society for Light Treatment & Biological Rhythms Rabbinical Council of California Agudath Israel of California Northwest Noggin Neuroscience California Sleep Society Michigan Academy of Sleep Medicine **Ohio Bicycle Federation** Wisconsin Sleep Society Canadian Society for Chronobiology Southern Sleep Society Normal Time All the Time German Society for Time Policy **Missouri Sleep Society** Solaris Fatigue Management Sleep Medicine Association Netherlands Chronobiology Lab Groningen **Better Times Platform** Barcelona Time Use Initiative for a Healthy Society

National Education Association American Academy of Sleep Medicine American Federation of Teachers American College of Occupational & Environmental Medicine Start School Later Rabbinical Council of America Society for Research on Biological Rhythms Florida PTA World Sleep Society European Biological Rhythms Society Society of Behavioral Sleep Medicine American Academy of Cardiovascular Sleep Medicine Agudath Israel of Florida Francophone Chronobiology Society Association of Canadian Ergonomists Good Light Group Agudath Israel of Chicago **Daylight Academy** Kentucky Sleep Society Maryland Sleep Society Australasian Chronobiology Society Cuyahoga Astronomical Association Adath Israel San Francisco **Tennessee Sleep Society Curtis Clock Lab Capitol Neurology** Stephens Memorial Observatory Dutch Society for Sleep-Wake Research **Dakotas Sleep Society** Abolish Time Change!

#### Individuals (non-comprehensive list)

Raúl Aguilar-Roblero MD PhD, Laboratory on Circadian Rhythmicity, Institute of Cellular Physiology, Mexico Konstantin V Danilenko MD PhD, Institute of Physiology & Basic Medicine, Novosibirsk, Russia Elizabeth B Klerman MD PhD, Associate Professor, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts Michael T Lam MD PhD, San Diego, California Michael McCarthy MD PhD, Center for Circadian Biology, University of California, San Diego Thomas E Nordahl MD PhD, Professor Emeritus, University of California, Davis David K Welsh MD PhD, Professor Emeritus, University of California, San Diego Amir Zarrinpar MD PhD, Assistant Professor, San Diego, California Salman Ahsan PhD, San Jose, California Shimon Amir PhD, Professor Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec Sonia Ancoli Israel PhD, Professor Emeritus, University of California, San Diego Michael Antle PhD, Professor, Hotchkiss Brain Institute & University of Calgary, Alberta Susanna Barry PhD, College Mental Health Counselor & Sleep Coach, 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