HOUSE BILL NO. HB0044

Mountain daylight time preservation.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Laursen, Barlow, Blackburn, Lindholm, Olsen, Sommers and Yin and Senator(s) Case, Driskill and Gierau

A BILL

for

AN ACT relating to legal time; requiring an application for the state to transfer time zones as specified; establishing a new uniform state time; specifying contingencies; making legislative findings; and providing for an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:

Section 1.

(a) The legislature finds that:

(i) The federal Standard Time Act of 1918, P.L. 65-106, 40 Stat. 450, established standard time zones for the United States bounded by designated meridian lines, including the zone designated as United States standard
mountain time in which the state of Wyoming is placed, and
the standard time zone designations have since become
geographic names of regional identity;

(ii) The federal Uniform Time Act of 1966, P.L. 89-387, 80 Stat. 107, 15 U.S.C. 260 et seq., was enacted by Congress to promote the adoption and observance of uniform time within the standard time zones of the United States. It standardized an annual one (1) hour advancement from standard time in April of each year, commonly called "daylight saving time," and an annual return to standard time approximately six (6) months later. A 2005 amendment to the Federal Uniform Time Act of 1966, P.L. 109-58, 119 Stat. 594, adjusted the daylight saving advancement date to mid-March and the return date to early November;

(iii) The federal Uniform Time Act of 1966 authorizes a state that is entirely situated within one (1) time zone, as the state of Wyoming is, to exempt itself from the change to daylight saving time as long as it does so uniformly as an entire state;
(iv) The residents and businesses of the state of Wyoming have become more habituated to the eight (8) months of daylight saving time per year than the four (4) months of standard time per year; and

(v) The biannual change of time between mountain standard time and mountain daylight time is disruptive to commerce and to the daily schedules of the residents of the state of Wyoming.

Section 2.

(a) Upon the enactment of a law similar to this act that authorizes an application for the same time zone change in Montana, Idaho, Utah and Colorado, the governor shall apply to the United States secretary of transportation for the state of Wyoming to be transferred to the zone designated as United States standard central time by the federal Standard Time Act of 1918.

(b) Upon approval of a transfer to the zone designated as United States standard central time by the United States secretary of transportation, the uniform time
within the state of Wyoming shall be coordinated universal
time offset by six (6) hours throughout the year. The
state of Wyoming shall then exempt itself from the
provisions of federal law providing for the advancement of
time.

(c) Upon approval of a transfer to the zone
designated as United States standard central time by the
United States secretary of transportation, the uniform time
within the state of Wyoming shall be known as mountain
daylight saving time unless the other states applying for a
time zone change uniformly select another name for the
uniform time.

Section 3. This act is effective immediately upon
completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law
as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming
Constitution.