

March 17, 2025

Dear Ohio Senate Committee on Government Oversight and Reform,

I am writing as a constituent in Cincinnati, OH, in opposition to SCR 6 that would make Daylight Savings Time permanent across Ohio. While I appreciate the desire to discontinue changing the clocks twice a year, I encourage the Committee to amend or replace the proposed legislation with a plan to make Standard time permanent.

As I am sure you know, federal law according to the Uniform Time Act of 1966 permits states to observe Daylight Savings Time from spring to fall, and states may choose to not observe Daylight Savings Time and remain on Standard Time year-round. However, the law *prohibits* permanent Daylight Savings Time. Therefore, SCR 6 would not be compliant with federal law, to which all states are held. Previously proposed federal legislation to revise federal law and permit permanent Daylight Savings Time has failed as recently as in 2023.

The current president has previously expressed support for permanent Standard Time noting the cost to Americans of switching the clocks or being on permanent Daylight Savings Time. This is one topic where the President and experts in health and economics clearly align. Research consistently shows that Standard Time is best for our health, which has impacts on our wellbeing, workforce, and economy.

As the parent of a child who goes to a public elementary school in Cincinnati, at the very western edge of Ohio where the sun already rises the latest, the clocks changing to Daylight Savings Time each spring makes our commute to school much more dangerous. Her school arrival is between 7:45am-8am. On the Monday after the clocks changed this spring to Daylight Savings time, the sun rose at 7:56am, just four minutes before she had to be at school, which meant walking to school before sunrise. Daylight Savings Time increases the danger of her commute on foot, with cars that cannot see her well when she must cross busy streets. It also increases the chances for kids arriving to school in cars and buses to be in a traffic accident due to the dark road conditions while commuting before sunrise and means that many kids would be waiting at bus stops completely in the dark.

Year-round Daylight Savings Time would mean that for us in Southwest Ohio the sun would not rise until nearly 9am some days in winter. Our kids would be going to school not even in the pre-sunrise dawn, but in complete darkness, for months. Permanent Daylight Savings Time is a danger to our health, and to our children's safety. Thank you for considering my testimony in opposition to SCR 6.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Lanphier