



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Transportation and
Public Facilities

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
Ryan Anderson, Commissioner

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April 8, 2022

The Honorable Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins
Chair, House State Affairs
Alaska House of Representatives
State Capitol Building, Room 411
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Via email: House.State.Affairs@akleg.gov

Dear Representative Kreiss-Tomkins:

During the March 24, 2022, hearing on House Bill 31, an "*An Act relating to daylight saving time; and providing for an effective date,*" a committee member (Rep. Vance) asked a question regarding any data that may support an increase in accidents given daylight saving time changes.

While the department does not have specific data that would directly address the question posed by Representative Vance, our team did find several research papers that may be of interest to the committee.

The first research paper enclosed which the team found for your consideration is from 2006 and in the state of Texas. This found that there was no significant change (or relatively small) in accidents because of daylight-saving time.

The second research paper enclosed is from the UK in 2016 which drew upon a series of studies and found "*The evidence from this review cannot support or refute the assertion that a permanent shift in light from morning to evening will have a road safety benefit.*"

As these papers indicate, there are many factors that make these types of analyses difficult. Alaska has seasonal road condition variations during these times that further complicate an analysis. We will continue to internally discuss data analysis options that would support a more extensive analysis.

Should the committee desire any additional follow-up on the above subjects, please direct those requests to DOT&PF Legislative Liaison, Andy Mills (andy.mills@alaska.gov), 907-465-3900.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Anderson".

Ryan Anderson, P.E.
Commissioner Designee

cc: Akis Gialopsos, Deputy Chief of Staff/Legislative Director, Office of the Governor
Andy Mills, Legislative Liaison, DOT&PF