



April 19, 2021

The Honorable Dan Ortiz  
State Capitol Room 513  
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: HB 31, An Act relating to daylight saving time

Dear Representative Ortiz:

We strongly support HB 31 and thank you for introducing this important legislation.

This legislation would end the annual spring forward and fall back between Standard Time and Daylight Saving Time (DST), eliminating the health issues associate with the unnecessary time change ritual. This was a driving factor that led to the introduction of a Senate bill during the 29<sup>th</sup> legislature that would have eliminated DST. But because that approach had substantial adverse impacts on Alaska's tourist industry and financial managers, it did not pass.

However, by making DST permanent instead of Standard Time permanent, this bill would not only end the twice-a-year changing of our clocks it would

1. Maintain the existing daylight hours in the summer that are critical for the Alaska tourist industry to maximize tourist excursions;
2. Extend daylight hours later in the day during the winter, allowing for later flight operations and more after school daylight hours; and
3. Reduce the time zone difference between Alaska and the east coast financial markets to three hours instead of four hours during the winter, thereby having a positive effect on all financial managers, including those of the Permanent Fund Corporation.

Additionally, with the recent pandemic and economic catastrophe related to the tourism industry, particularly in Southeast Alaska, maximizing any opportunity to build back a strong economy is crucial.

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We are also very encouraged that the three other west coast states are supporting year-round DST, as well as potentially British Columbia. For the reasons listed above, Alaska should join our neighbors in this effort to have the US Department of Transportation approve year-round DST for all four west coast states, if not the entire United States.

We look forward to supporting this legislation in any way possible, including testifying in favor of it at any legislative hearing. By copy of this letter, we are also encouraging the Senate and Governor to also support this bill, expediting its passage, and signing it into law.

Please advise us when the bill is scheduled for a hearing so we can be sure to testify.

Sincerely,



Edward K. Kiesel  
President

cc: *House State Affairs Committee Members*  
*The Honorable Rep. Louise Stutes, Speaker of the House of Representatives*  
*The Honorable Sen. Peter Micciche, Alaska Senate President*  
*The Honorable Michael J. Dunleavy, Governor of Alaska*

**From:** Scott Yates  
**To:** [Rep. Daniel Ortiz](#); [Sen. Peter Micciche](#)  
**Subject:** Daylight Saving Time  
**Date:** Monday, January 11, 2021 9:27:11 AM

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Rep. Ortiz and Sen. Micciche,

Hope it's OK to write to both of you.

I met Sen. Micciche in Arizona back when we could meet. I was one of the experts on the Daylight Saving Time panel. I tried to write to you after that, but I goofed up your email address.

I see now that Rep. Ortiz has a DST bill, and I just wanted to write to offer to help in whatever way I can. I've got lots of helpful research on my site: <https://www.sco.tt/time/> and I also wrote a blog about how to get a bill passed and signed: <https://www.sco.tt/time/2020/11/daylight-saving-time-legislative-guide-for-2021.html>

Let me know how I can help!

Sincerely yours,  
the Time Wizard ;-)

-Scott Yates

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## **Liz Harpold**

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**From:** xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx  
**Sent:** Monday, February 1, 2021 2:33 PM  
**To:** Rep. Daniel Ortiz  
**Subject:** New Pom:Time Zones

**Categories:** Constituent

**Georgianna Zimmerle**

**Please! Support HB 292 or similar legislation to STOP THE MADNESS! The majority of people I know are tired of the endless and useless changing of the CLOCKS ritual the world does twice a year. It is long past the time when it might have been useful to the public.**

## Liz Harpold

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**From:** xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 16, 2021 2:46 PM  
**To:** Rep. Daniel Ortiz  
**Subject:** You got a message "Daylight Savings /Mariculture / Ferries"  
  
**Categories:** Constituent

**From:** Santiago Bedia  
**Subject:** Daylight Savings /Mariculture / Ferries

**Message Body:**

Greetings Dan!

- 1) Yes, lets do away with soring forward and fall backwards.
- 2) Mariculture bill yes, but consider as water temps warm up, the pacific oyster might start to become invasive (but a tasty one).
- 3) We need pedestrian friendly / non-car-centric ferries that connect to excellent public transit systems. Smaller more affordable boats + healthier SE Alaskans. Imagine smaller ferries that have more room for bicycles, kayaks, and hand carts. Maybe a cooperative model as well where members get seasonal discounts, but have to pay a yearly membership.

Well, thanks for your time. I know you are a busy guy with no time to respond.

**From:** [Kris Sperry](#)  
**To:** [Rep. Daniel Ortiz](#)  
**Subject:** Alaska Time Change Bill  
**Date:** Sunday, January 10, 2021 7:36:43 PM

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Rep. Ortiz,

I was very excited to read about your pre-filed bill to move us to Alaska Standard Time throughout the year. As a lifelong Alaskan, I don't see any value in the confusing shifts that come with daylight savings time.

Can you clarify if this would put us on the current daylight savings time or the "off-season" (spring & summer time schedule)?

I continue to advocate for more daylight later in the day for Alaskans. Here are some reasons why (admittedly I've done very little research to support them):

- 1) More daylight during evening hours= more active people  
-more active people reduces medical costs for the state
- 2) Reduction in sedentary lifestyle, seasonal affective disorder, depression, etc.  
because there is more daylight for Alaskans to get outside and enjoy after work & school.
- 3) Throughout the winter time, most of Alaska will experience darkness for morning hours regardless which schedule we're on. However, by having daylight later in the day, we can reduce traffic accidents occurring in post-work rush hour traffic because of better visibility.

Thank you for sponsoring this bill and I sure hope it advances.

Kris

## **Liz Harpold**

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**From:** CHARLES SCHULTZ  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 28, 2021 4:21 PM  
**To:** Rep. Daniel Ortiz  
**Subject:** Day light savings Bill HB 31

**Categories:** Reply warranted non-constituent

Hello Representative Ortiz,

I am so glad to see you sponsor a bill that would improve life in Alaska.

The health benefits of having a little more light at the end of the day is immeasurable. By allowing a little more after school and workday light, our children and all adults can more easily improve their physical and mental health by finally having a little more time for after school and after work activities.

Our children need this time to exercise, walk the dog, do sports, whatever, but all will improve their physical and mental health, which we all know we need.

I am a small business owner and employ 10 employees. For my business having to make our east coast phone calls for orders, or business in the morning is a small price to pay for my employee's improved wellness. I see no problems for my business whatsoever. The additional one hour of additional time difference, for 6 months a year as they may switch away from Daylight saving time, is simply not a big deal.

Thanks for your efforts,  
Charles Schultz DDS  
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery  
Juneau, Alaska

**From:** Yvonna Christensen  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 10, 2022 7:52 AM  
**To:** Rep. Daniel Ortiz <Rep.Daniel.Ortiz@akleg.gov>  
**Subject:** 3/10/2022

Hi Dan,

Alaska may and can opt to stay permanently on daylight saving time (without national congressional approval, I am led to believe).

Washington has been contemplating staying on "mountain time."

So, let's you and your friends up there in Juneau get it done for Alaska this session!

Thanks!

Yvonna Christensen

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"Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass. It's about learning to dance in the rain." & Jeremiah 31:4

**From:** Michelle Myers  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 13, 2022 9:24 AM  
**To:** All House Members

Just say NO to Time Change! Time Change is very disruptive, say no to changing the time twice a year.

Sent on my own time and my own opinion.

Michelle Myers