



First National Bank
A L A S K A

February 3, 2015

Senator Anna MacKinnon(Fairclough)
State Capitol Room 516
Senate District G
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: Senate Bill 6: Eliminating Daylight Saving Time in Alaska

Dear Senator MacKinnon:

For many reasons, the Daylight Saving Time law should be repealed. Some of the principal reasons are as follows:

- By the first of March 1, I am going to work in the daylight, but when the law mandates that I turn the clocks forward, I am going to work in the dark again. Either way, it is daylight when I drive home at night. There, Daylight Saving Time causes me to *lose* daylight during the business hours.
- I have long believed that Daylight Saving Time wastes energy over the course of a year, and a recent study cited by *Fast Company* magazine has found this to be the case.
- Daylight Saving Time is an anachronism that originated I response to political and climatic factors in World War I England which have no relevance in Alaska in 2015.
- It would be nice to be on the same time schedule as the Pacific Coast at least six months out of the year, but Daylight Saving Time prevents that.
- Daylight Saving Time is just a complete nuisance and inconvenience, twice a year, and it accomplishes nothing in the State of Alaska.

Sincerely,


D. H. Cuddy
Chairman of the Board

DHC:etm

NFIB

The Voice of Small Business.®

ALASKA

January 30, 2015

The Honorable Anna MacKinnon
State Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

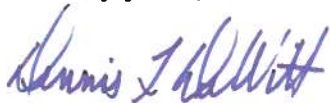
RE: Senate Bill 6

Dear Senator MacKinnon:

On behalf of the National Federation of Independent Business/Alaska, I wish to respectfully share our support for Senate Bill 6 that eliminates daylight savings time in Alaska. The National Federation of Independent Business is the largest small-business advocacy group in Alaska.

In our 2010 member ballot, NFIB/AK members voted overwhelmingly that Daylight savings time should be eliminated in Alaska. The members have not since changed their minds. We believe its original purpose is long past and it has no current value. The change from five to two time zones in Alaska's northern latitude has created a situation where changing time in the spring and fall makes little sense. Thus, while it may be a nice idea elsewhere, it is a cumbersome activity that provides no real value to Alaskans.

Sincerely yours,



Dennis L. DeWitt
Alaska State Director

Cc: Senate State Affairs Committee
NFIB/AK Leadership Council

From: Scott Stewart <sstewart@arcticcontrols.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 1:29 PM
To: Erin Shine
Subject: Senate Bill 6

Please be advised that Arctic Controls, Inc. supports the proposed Daylight Saving Time Elimination. If you have any questions please feel free to contact us at your convenience.

Thank you.

Best Regards,



Scott A. Stewart

Scott A. Stewart
President
Phone: (907) 277-7555
Fax: (907) 277-9295



URL: www.arcticcontrols.com

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Daniel George

From: M3 Sweatt <msweatt@microsoft.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 12:04 PM
To: Sen. Anna MacKinnon
Cc: Sen. Bill Stoltze; Sen. John Coghill; Sen. Click Bishop; Sen. Mike Dunleavy; Sen. Cathy Giessel
Subject: On SB 6, exempting Alaska from daylight saving time

Senator Anna MacKinnon

Alaska State Senate

State Capitol Room 516

Juneau AK, 99801

Re: On SB 6, exempting Alaska from daylight saving time

Dear Senator MacKinnon,

I work at Microsoft across our engineering and marketing teams on broad technical issues that impact our customers. I understand you and your colleagues have sponsored and submitted Senate Bill 6, SB 6, exempting Alaska from daylight saving time, and to establish an effective date of the change.

As I am sure you are aware, a change in Alaska's time zone and observance of daylight saving time would have national and worldwide impacts on time references for interstate and international commerce. Each year there are many changes to daylight saving time and shifts in time zones around the world, some of which are late-breaking. When such changes are enacted into law, Microsoft (through regular updates to products and services) and other companies providing broad technical infrastructure to customers around the world issue updates to comply with these laws.

We appreciate that you have thoughtfully called for this Act, if passed, to take effect January 1, 2017. As you know, without adequate time to react, such changes can be challenging for individuals to manage and for companies to support. In order to achieve more seamless transitions to new DST and time zone policies (and allow ample time to implement the changes in product and services), Microsoft crafted a set of guidelines with input from representatives from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Energy. To provide a seamless transition to new time offset rules, we recommend that governments consider providing the following:

1. Ample advance notice (1 year or more) of the planned change, from the time it is enacted into law to the time of the change (as was provided in the Energy Policy Act of 2005)

2. Official, published confirmation of planned changes to DST or time zones on governmental websites and in official publications.
3. Concentrated promotional efforts communicating the change to affected residents and citizens.

Thank you for taking the time to read this mail. We will closely monitor this legislation and the impact it will have on Alaskans, our customers and people who use connected devices around the world. For more information, please visit <http://www.microsoft.com/time>. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Respectfully,

(Mr.) M3 Sweatt

Partner, Program Management & Corporate CPE

Microsoft Corp.

M3 Sweatt --- [Microsoft Product & Services Customer & Partner Satisfaction](#)

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Sent using at least Windows 8.1 and Office 365

February 6, 2015

Testimony regarding Senate Bill (SB) 6 – Repeal of Daylight Saving Time in Alaska

From: Lynn Willis, 10140 Hillcrest Lane, Eagle River, Alaska 99577

To: Senate State Affairs Committee, Alaska State Legislature

Again the topic of ending the use of Daylight Saving Time in Alaska is before us. I certainly hope this time around this subject will finally receive a resolution involving the entire House, Senate and Office of the Governor. Alas, I fear this effort will share the fate of similar legislation introduced since 1999 including HB4 (21st Legislature), HB409 (22nd Legislature), HB176 (24th Legislature), SB 120 (24th Legislature) and HB 19 (25th Legislature). The effort toward an open resolution of this issue ended abruptly when all of this prior legislation was ultimately held to death before various legislative committees with no explanation being required (or offered) following that defacto veto action.

This topic has now had numerous legislative hearings since 1999. I challenge the proponents of continuing to use DST in Alaska to review that testimony to find a compelling reason to continue to observe this law in Alaska. Please remember that following the 1983 time zone changes in Alaska most of Alaska advanced clocks permanently. Thereafter everyone residing west of the former Pacific Time zone (that then included Southeast Alaska) have been observing Daylight Saving Time permanently. Now, each year when Alaskans advance clocks for the period of DST observance these residents participate in what has been described as “double” or even “triple” daylight saving time. This effect can be seen in Anchorage when, during periods of DST observance, the Sun is highest in the sky at 2:00PM while in Nome and Kotzebue the Sun is at its zenith at 3:00PM.

The proponents of keeping DST have argued that observance of DST is necessary for commerce. When this practice began in Alaska business communications involved two hard wired telephones and we were much more “Seattle Centric”. Today business communications are possible 24/7 using technology that wasn’t even dreamed of in the days of hard wired business phones that were only accessible during “normal business hours”. Today, many international business organizations with operations in Alaska utilize GMT (Greenwich Mean Time) which doesn’t recognize DST. Also today Alaska has business relationships now with nations such as Japan and China where DST is not used. Time Zones are intended to impact commerce not the use of Daylight Saving Time.

The proponents of DST will argue that this practice is “no big deal”. Well, evidence is showing the disruption of the human circadian rhythm is a “big deal” to some. Absent a very good reason, providing for the personal convenience of select individuals should not trump the negative impact this irritating practice has on others. Several statewide surveys have shown a majority of Alaskans would support ending this practice, therefore shouldn’t the burden of justification be on the proponents of keeping DST?

This changing of clocks twice each year is perhaps the most impactful law foisted on Alaskans by our state government. Absent living in the far off Aleutian-Hawaiian time zone (where DST is not observed), or being a hermit in a cave somewhere, no Alaskan can avoid the direct impact of this law.

February 6, 2015

Testimony regarding Senate Bill (SB) 6 – Repeal of Daylight Saving Time in Alaska

From: Lynn Willis, 10140 Hillcrest Lane, Eagle River, Alaska 99577

I, for one, am tired of finding a virtual Alaska legislator with me in my bed at 2:00 a.m. on a Sunday morning twice each year demanding that I change my clocks.

The proponents will argue that this inconvenience is a sacrifice we all must endure until the entire nation no longer observes Daylight Saving Time. I consider myself to be no less of a patriot because I object to this inane practice. You obviously cannot make a day any longer than 24 hours so whatever daylight you might realize by delaying the time of sunset you're surely going to lose the following morning by also delaying the time of sunrise. DST is a "parlor trick" that only "works" in the temperate regions of the globe where day length changes moderately during the year. DST has virtually no effect near the Equator or in the Northern latitudes where day length is either substantially the same year round, or radically changes over the course of the seasons. Currently we are beginning to gain daylight as we approach our status as "the land of the midnight sun". If you want an extra hour of actual daylight in the spring when DST starts, just wait a few days.

For those seeking justification based on a compelling reason I suggest they remember the purpose of the federal law that allows the individual states to observe (or not observe) Daylight Saving Time. The specific justification in federal law for the use of Daylight Saving Time by the individual states is to save energy. A significant energy savings is supposed to occur when the time of sunset is delayed thus affording the populace a savings of energy by not having to use artificial lighting. I challenge the supporters of DST in Alaska to cite examples of energy savings attributable exclusively to the use of Daylight Saving Time in Alaska. Energy cost has been a topic of interest now for several years in Alaska and I am not aware of any testimony before the legislature or in another forum that mentions a positive impact of Daylight Saving Time on the cost of energy to Alaskans. Currently the legislature is discussing the options to provide energy relief to the Fairbanks area and, in all the discussion, has anyone reflected on the energy savings to Fairbanks that appear when we advance our clocks each spring? Do power cost equalization expenditures decrease because of the onset of DST? Several years ago I spoke to a utility manager who told me that ambient temperature and available daylight do affect energy costs; however, while increasing daylight does impact energy expense the actual time of day has little impact because again, for every hour you delay sunset you also delay sunrise. Also, technology has reduced the cost of lightning by use of Compact Fluorescent Lamp (CFL) and Light Emitting Diode (LED) devices and much lighting is now controlled by ambient light sensors that operate regardless of the time of day.

To summarize, if there ever was a reason to observe DST in Alaska, that reason has certainly left us and we can now end the existence of this public irritant as allowed by Federal Law.