



Introduced Version

**HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the legislative council to assign to an appropriate study committee the topic of the determination of the time zone or time zones in which Indiana's 92 counties should be located.

Thompson, Braun, Smith V, Bacon

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on

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HC 1009/DI 84



HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the legislative council to assign to an appropriate study committee the topic of the determination of the time zone or time zones in which Indiana's 92 counties should be located.

Whereas, Based on the geographical location of Indiana, the original designation for all of Indiana from 1883-1965 was the Central Time Zone;

Whereas, Existing technology in the mid-1960s prompted 80 Indiana counties to be redesignated to the Eastern Time Zone to facilitate financial transactions with, and television broadcast from, New York and the Eastern United States;

Whereas, While modern technology has negated the original convenience advantage of being in the Eastern Time Zone, the three-hour time difference with the West Coast that now exists year-round causes costly inconveniences in conducting direct business communications with the West Coast, California being the ninth largest economy in the world;

Whereas, Indiana's Constitution: Article 1, Bill of Rights, states that "all free governments are, and of right ought to be, founded on their (the People's) authority, and instituted for their peace, safety, and well-being";

Whereas, The excessive amount of morning darkness during the majority of the school year in Indiana's 80 Eastern Time Zone counties jeopardizes the safety of the 850,000 students living in those counties, and the sunlight



schedule that is two hours out-of-sync with teens' biological clocks jeopardizes their educational well-being by compromising their ability to perform in school;

Whereas, An adverse sunlight schedule is a recognized contributing cause of several recently released statistics regarding Hoosiers' health, safety, and well-being: Hoosiers are the seventh most obese and least physically fit in the USA; Indiana teens have the highest death rate in the USA due to car crashes; Indiana teens have the second highest suicide attempt rate in the USA; and 50,000 Indiana students are chronic absentees each year, the majority due to truancy;

Whereas, Senate Bill 127 passed in 2005, directing the governor to petition the United States Department of Transportation to hold hearings to determine the "time zone or time zones in which Indiana's 92 counties should be located";

Whereas, The USDOT replied that it was the job of the Indiana General Assembly to determine where the time boundary within Indiana should be located and then bring a petition to them;

Whereas, 50 Indiana school boards and 25,000 Indiana citizens have signed a resolution in support of restoring Indiana to its original Central Time Zone;

Whereas, The issues of commerce, productivity, education achievement, student safety, and health are some of the issues adversely affected by time zone placements: Therefore,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives
of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana,
the Senate concurring:*

1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly urges the
2 legislative council to assign to an appropriate study committee the topic
3 of the determination of the time zone or time zones in which Indiana's
4 92 counties should be located.

