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**SENATE BILL 5140**

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**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2019 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Honeyford, Hunt, and Van De Wege

Prefiled 01/11/19.

1 AN ACT Relating to uniform standard time for the state of  
2 Washington; adding a new section to chapter 1.20 RCW; adding a new  
3 section to chapter 43.330 RCW; creating a new section; and repealing  
4 RCW 1.20.051.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the state of  
7 Washington would benefit from the consistency and predictability of  
8 observing a standard time throughout the calendar year. Research has  
9 shown that changing to and from daylight saving time twice per year  
10 has negative impacts on public health, increases traffic accidents  
11 and crime, disrupts agriculture scheduling, and hinders economic  
12 growth. Scientific studies have connected a number of health  
13 consequences with the act of switching between standard time and  
14 daylight saving time, including greater risks of heart attacks, more  
15 frequent workplace injuries, and increased suicide rates in the days  
16 immediately following the switch. In addition, there are other  
17 political subdivisions within the United States that are petitioning  
18 congress for year-round daylight saving time or have changed their  
19 time zone over the years to create more consistency across the United  
20 States for convenience of commerce. Therefore, the legislature  
21 intends to seek authorization through the United States congress to

1 observe daylight saving time year-round; and also review the  
2 potential impact the time zone has on communities along the border  
3 between Washington and other states and between Canada and Washington  
4 to determine whether the state should seek authorization through the  
5 United States department of transportation to change Washington state  
6 to mountain standard time year-round if year-round daylight saving  
7 time is not authorized by congress.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 1.20 RCW  
9 to read as follows:

10 (1) The standard time for the state of Washington is the zone  
11 designated by the United States department of transportation for the  
12 state of Washington under the uniform time act, 15 U.S.C. Secs. 261  
13 and 263, as determined by reference to coordinated universal time.

14 (2) The standard time within the state shall advance by one hour  
15 commencing at two o'clock antemeridian on the second Sunday in March  
16 each year and ending at two o'clock antemeridian on the first Sunday  
17 in November each year.

18 (3) If the United States congress amends 15 U.S.C. Sec. 260a to  
19 authorize states to observe daylight saving time year-round, it is  
20 the intent of the legislature that daylight saving time be the year-  
21 round standard time of the entire state and all of its political  
22 subdivisions.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 43.330  
24 RCW to read as follows:

25 (1) The department is directed to review impacts the state time  
26 zone and daylight saving time have on commerce in the state of  
27 Washington.

28 (2) Beginning December 1, 2019, and every two years thereafter,  
29 the department must report its findings and recommendations regarding  
30 a change in the state time zone to the appropriate committees of the  
31 legislature. The report must include:

32 (a) A summary of changes in the time zones of other political  
33 subdivisions that may affect convenience of commerce in Washington  
34 state;

35 (b) The percentage of residents that work outside of Washington  
36 state or leave their community for schooling and what state or  
37 standard of time is observed in the places where they go for these  
38 purposes;

1 (c) An overview of where businesses get their supplies and ship  
2 their goods or products;

3 (d) A summary of locations that provide media services to each  
4 county in the state of Washington;

5 (e) A summary of airport, bus, and passenger rail services  
6 provided to each community in the state; and

7 (f) Other major elements of this state's economy and any plans  
8 for economic development in the state that may impact the convenience  
9 of commerce.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** RCW 1.20.051 (Daylight saving time) and  
11 2018 c 22 s 2, 1963 c 14 s 1, & 1961 c 3 s 1 are each repealed.

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