



Introduced Version

**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. 37**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

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

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February 16, 2016, read first time and referred to Committee on Public Policy.



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

5 *Whereas, Based on the geographical location of Indiana,*
6 *the original time zone designation for all of Indiana from*
7 *1883-1965 was the Central Time Zone;*

8 *Whereas, Existing technology in the mid-1960s prompted*
9 *80 Indiana counties to be reassigned to the Eastern Time Zone*
10 *to facilitate financial transactions with, and television*
11 *broadcasts from, New York and the Eastern United States;*

12 *Whereas, Modern technology has negated the original*
13 *convenience advantage of being in the Eastern Time Zone, and*
14 *the three-hour time difference with the West Coast that now*
15 *exists year-round causes costly inconveniences when*
16 *conducting direct business communications with that region of*
17 *the country, California being the ninth largest economy in the*
18 *world;*

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

23 *Whereas, The excessive amount of morning darkness during*



1 *the majority of the school year in Indiana's 80 Eastern Time*
2 *Zone counties jeopardizes the safety of the 850,000 students*
3 *living in those counties;*

4 *Whereas, Additionally, students who are teenagers in those*
5 *Eastern Time Zone counties have to cope with a sunlight*
6 *schedule that is two hours out-of-sync with their biological*
7 *clocks, which jeopardizes their educational well-being by*
8 *compromising their ability to perform at their most optimum*
9 *level in school;*

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

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

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

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

29 *Whereas, The issues of commerce, productivity, academic*
30 *achievement, student safety, and health are some of the issues*
31 *adversely affected by time zone placements: Therefore,*

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



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

5 SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed
6 to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the legislative council.

