

HOUSE BILL NO. 1483

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the House Committee on Rules

on _____)

(Patron Prior to Substitute--Delegate McNamara)

Directing the Secretary of Commerce and Trade to study the effects of daylight saving time on the Commonwealth; report.

Whereas, the Commonwealth has fully participated in the observance of daylight saving time by turning clocks forward one hour in the spring and back one hour in the fall since 1967, with the implementation of the federal Uniform Time Act of 1966 (15 U.S.C. § 260 et seq.); and

Whereas, the overwhelming conclusion of researchers is that the act of changing the clocks twice per year directly results in an increase in heart attacks, traffic accidents, workplace injuries, pedestrian deaths, crime, and sleep disruption as well as a loss of productivity; and

Whereas, research suggests an association between the biannual clock change and seasonal affective disorder, strokes, and cardiac arrest; and

Whereas, researchers have determined that remaining in daylight saving time year-round will save significant amounts of energy in November and February and will lead to a decrease in childhood obesity by increasing the amount of sunlight after school hours; and

Whereas, 19 states have enacted legislation to provide for a year-round daylight saving time if allowed to do so by Congress; now, therefore,

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. § 1. That the Secretary of Commerce and Trade (the Secretary) shall study the effects of daylight saving time on the Commonwealth. In conducting this study, the Secretary shall (i) review the effect of the Commonwealth's continued participation under the Uniform Time Act of 1966 (15 U.S.C. § 260 et seq.), (ii) determine the potential consequences of a decision to use standard time year-round in the Commonwealth, (iii) determine the potential consequences of a decision to use daylight saving time year-

27 round in the Commonwealth, and (iv) review other related issues and make recommendations as
28 appropriate. All agencies of the Commonwealth shall provide assistance to the Secretary for this study,
29 upon request. The Secretary shall complete his meetings by November 30, 2023, and shall submit to the
30 Governor and the General Assembly an executive summary and a report of his findings and
31 recommendations for publication as a House or Senate document. The executive summary and report shall
32 be submitted as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the
33 processing of legislative documents and reports no later than the first day of the 2024 Regular Session of
34 the General Assembly and shall be posted on the General Assembly's website.

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