

, Good afternoon Chairman Burckhard and esteemed members of the Senate Political Subdivisions Committee. For the record, I am Rep. Bill Devlin of District 23 and I live in Finley. District 23 is a rural District that includes all of Steele, Griggs, Nelson and Eddy Counties along with half of Benson County.

I am here to introduce HB1371 for your consideration. Simply put the bill will put the state on Daylight Savings Time year-round, once congress authorizes states to observe Daylight Savings Time continuously throughout the year.

I have introduced this bill on behalf of a number of constituents who complain twice a year when they have to change their clocks. There are also a number of health issues involved with the time change that negatively affect our citizens.

The changing of time twice a year has been linked to a host of mental and physical health issues. It can put people at greater risk for cardiovascular conditions and is the reason why some individuals experience seasonal affective disorder. Although it was invented to save energy, we actually use more electricity once DST starts, according to some experts.

Medical experts have reported incidents of heart attacks, strokes and fatal car accidents all spike around the start of daylight-savings time each year.

When I looked at figuring out a way to make this change, I found out a couple things. The legislature has the power to place the state on Standard Time year-round. However, as I talked to my constituents, potential sponsors and other interested people most wanted to be on Daylight Savings Time year-round.

To get to that position we need congress to approve our request. I believe there are thirteen states now waiting and I am hopeful that something will be done this year.

Thank you, Chairman Burckhard and members of the committee. I will try answer any questions you might have and would appreciate your support of HB 1371.