

Date: March 24, 2025

To: Senate State and Local Government

From: Kirby Evanger

Subject: Strong opposition to HB1259

My name is Kirby Evanger and I live at 8042 White Oak Loop, Bismarck which is in District 8. I ask that you oppose HB 1259 which would end Daylight Savings Time. I think I speak for the vast majority of people who dislike time changes twice per year. I do not like the time changes either, but if we make a change, please change it to remain on Daylight Savings Time year around, NOT standard time. When you think about it, we are currently on Standard Time only about 4 months of the year and we are on Daylight Savings time for about 8 months of the year. Why change to what we currently observe for only one third of the year?? Instead, it would make so much more sense to change to what we currently observe for two thirds of the year.

As North Dakotans, we cherish our spring, summer, and fall months after being on lock-down much of the winter due to the extreme cold. **When do people enjoy the VAST MAJORITY of their time outside? Clearly that answer is in the evening and to a much lesser degree, in the morning.** Compared to what we are used to with Daylight Savings Time, HB 1259 would add another hour of daylight in the morning hours and take away a precious hour of sunlight in the evening hours when so many people are outside with their kids, walking, going on wagon rides, fishing, hunting, boating, biking, hiking, exercising, gardening, motorcycling, attending ballgames, etc. **My neighborhood is a buzz of activity in the evening, with very little activity in the mornings.** In the mornings, people are busy getting ready for work, getting the kids ready for school/daycare, and commuting. An extra hour of daylight in the morning will NOT result in nearly the amount of time and enjoyment of our outdoors as evenings do. People enjoy their evenings much more than their mornings because they have commitments and deadlines in the mornings. That is not the case in the evenings.

Do we really want first light in June at around 4:15 AM? Official sunrise on June 1st is at 5:50 am under Central Daylight Savings Time, but it would be **sunrise at 4:50 am if we no longer observe Daylight Savings Time.** The summer solstice is the longest day of the year on June 20th with sunrise at 5:46 am if observing DST and 4:46 am if not observing DST. First light is typically about 30 minutes before sunrise so **we will have first light around 4:15 AM.** I'm not sure very many people will be taking advantage of that extra hour of sunlight during most of our summer months, and instead, will likely have trouble getting

a good night's rest when it is light out so early. Conversely, gaining that **little used extra morning hour of sunlight** in North Dakota's prime months of spring, summer, fall will come at the expense of the evening time when the vast majority of North Dakotans are enjoying their respite from the grasp of winter. If we no longer observe Daylight Savings Time, our latest sunset of the year on June 20th will be at 8:42 pm. In April, our sunsets will be around 7:30 pm instead of 8:30 pm. In October, our sunsets will be at around 6:00 pm instead of 7:00 pm.

I am an avid waterfowl hunter and am very concerned about the impact on hunting for any game that requires scouting in the evenings. Even with Daylight Savings Time, it is difficult in later October to finish the workday and scout that same evening in preparation for the next day's hunt. **Eliminating Daylight Savings time takes that precious hour of sunlight away, forcing hunters to leave work early or forego hunting the day after a work day. This is a big deal for hunting and it will only lead to further decline in the hunter participation rates in our great state.** Many people are not able to leave at 3:00 or 3:30 pm on a workday to go scouting before sunset that evening. If you cannot scout the evening before, many hunts the following day cannot happen, especially for waterfowl whose feeding area changes daily.

Most people despise changing the clocks twice per year and I think that is why there was support in the House to pass this bill. I also despise changing clocks twice per year, but I cherish more daylight in the evenings after a long winter when it is dark by the time you leave work at 5:00 pm. **That is why I oppose HB 1259 strongly!** I would be in support of eliminating the clock changes twice per year by adopting Daylight Savings Time year round, and I think if that bill would be proposed, you would have emphatic support from the vast majority of North Dakotans.

Thank you for considering my stance and the stance of most North Dakotans on this. **I ask that you oppose HB 1259, and as an alternative, adopt Daylight Savings Time year round.** Thank you for representing us. We appreciate you.

Sincerely,

Kirby Evanger

8042 White Oak Loop

Bismarck, ND 58501