

March 25, 2025

I am writing to express my strong opposition to HB 1259, which proposes to make standard time the permanent time for North Dakota. While I understand that this bill may be motivated by a desire for uniformity, I believe it will have a negative impact on the quality of life for many residents, particularly those who enjoy outdoor activities during the summer months.

By limiting daylight hours for a majority of our working individuals, HB 1259 will significantly reduce opportunities for outdoor recreation in the evening. Many North Dakotans, particularly those with full-time jobs, rely on longer daylight hours after work to engage in physical activities like hiking, biking, or spending time with family outdoors. Shifting to permanent standard time will effectively shorten these precious hours during the summer, ultimately diminishing the well-being and enjoyment of our citizens.

The proposed change will have a significant effect on local golf courses and summer recreation softball and baseball leagues. Additionally, although I live in the western side of the state, I can only imagine the issues of border cities such as Fargo-Moorhead and Grand Forks-East Grand Forks.

I urge the legislature to consider the impact this bill will have on the daily lives of North Dakotans and to prioritize the flexibility of daylight savings time, which better aligns with the needs of our community.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Rick Hedberg
Minot, ND