

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2022 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

House Bill 126

(Delegate Crosby)

Health and Government Operations

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

General Provisions – Standard Time – Year-Round Daylight Saving Time

This bill requires the standard time in the State to be Eastern Daylight Time year round, which would establish year-round daylight saving time (DST) in the State. This change is contingent on (1) similar legislation being enacted by Delaware, the District of Columbia, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia and (2) the appropriate federal law being amended to allow the states or a state, individually, to observe a year-round standard time that is consistent with Eastern Daylight Time. The Secretary of State must (1) monitor which states enact similar legislation and any related changes to federal law and (2) notify the Department of Legislative Services (DLS) when the contingencies are met. If DLS receives such notice by December 31, 2027, this change takes effect the second Sunday in March or the first Sunday in November after the change takes effect, whichever occurs first. If DLS does not receive notice of the contingencies being met by December 31, 2027, the bill terminates. **The bill's monitoring and notice requirements take effect July 1, 2022.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The Secretary of State can monitor action by other states and the federal government and, if necessary, report to DLS within existing budgeted resources. Revenues are not affected.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Under the federal Uniform Time Act, a state may exempt itself from observing DST by state law. If a state chooses to observe DST, it must begin and end on federally mandated dates. The law does not allow a state to observe DST year round.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: HB 1013 of 2021 passed the House and received a hearing in the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee, but no further action was taken.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Secretary of State; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 14, 2022
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