

Effect of HR 1556

Below is the text of 15 USC 260-263¹, annotated with the changes suggested by HR 1556, as of March 26, 2019.



Background

[HR 1556](#), dubbed the “Sunshine Protection Act of 2019”, is intended to have the effect of establishing “Year-Round Daylight Saving Time” across the United States by redefining the standard times in each time zone to be one hour earlier than currently observed, and eliminating the “Spring Forward/Fall Back” changes of the clocks.

Provision is made to allow states and “areas” that do not currently observe Daylight Saving Time to remain on an unaltered standard time. Currently this would apply primarily to the states of Arizona and Hawaii, and likely to a number of smaller areas around the US.

The text that would be stricken is shown in, text to be added is shown in blue underline.

Projection of 15 USC 260-264 With HR 1556 Applied

§260. Congressional declaration of policy; adoption and observance of uniform standard of time; authority of Secretary of Transportation

It is the policy of the United States to promote the adoption and observance of uniform time within the standard time zones prescribed by sections 261 to 264 of this title, as modified by section 265 of this title. To this end the Secretary of Transportation is authorized and directed to foster and promote widespread and uniform adoption and observance of the same standard of time within and throughout each such standard time zone.

§261. Zones for standard time; interstate or foreign commerce

(a) In general

For the purpose of establishing the standard time of the United States, the territory of the United States shall be divided into nine zones in the manner provided in this section. Except as provided in subsection (b), standard time of the first zone shall be Coordinated Universal Time retarded by 3 hours; that of the second zone retarded by 4 hours; that of the third zone retarded by 5 hours; that of the fourth zone retarded by 6 hours; that of the fifth zone retarded 7 hours; that of the sixth zone retarded by 8 hours; that of the seventh zone retarded by 9 hours; that of the eighth zone retarded by 10 hours; and that of the ninth zone shall be Coordinated Universal Time advanced by 11 hours. The limits of each zone shall be defined by an order of the Secretary of Transportation, having regard for the convenience of commerce and the existing junction points and division points of common carriers engaged in interstate or foreign commerce, and any such order may be modified from time to time. As used in sections 261 to 264 of this title, the term "interstate or foreign commerce" means commerce between a State, the

¹ Sections 264-267 are not included here, as they are not affected and not directly relevant to the legislation.



District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or any possession of the United States and any place outside thereof.

(b) Standard Time for Certain States and Areas – The standard time for a State that has exempted itself from the provisions of section 3(a) of the Uniform Time Act of 1966 (15 U.S.C. 260a(a)), as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of the Sunshine Protection Act of 2019, pursuant to such section or an area of a State that has exempted such area from such provisions pursuant to such section shall be, as such State considers appropriate –

(1) the standard time for such State or area, as the case may be, pursuant to subsection (a) of this sections; or

(2) the standard time for such State or area, as the case may be, pursuant to subsection (a) of this section as it was in effect on the day before the date of enactment of the Sunshine Protection Act of 2019.

(c) Coordinated Universal Time defined

In this section, the term "Coordinated Universal Time" means the time scale maintained through the General Conference of Weights and Measures and interpreted or modified for the United States by the Secretary of Commerce in coordination with the Secretary of the Navy.

§263. Designation of zone standard times

The standard time of the first zone shall be known and designated as Atlantic standard time; that of the second zone shall be known and designated as eastern standard time; that of the third zone shall be known and designated as central standard time; that of the fourth zone shall be known and designated as mountain standard time; that of the fifth zone shall be known and designated as Pacific standard time; that of the sixth zone shall be known and designated as Alaska standard time; that of the seventh zone shall be known and designated as Hawaii-Aleutian standard time; that of the eighth zone shall be known and designated as Samoa standard time; and that of the ninth zone shall be known as Chamorro standard time.

Methodology

This document was compiled from two sources:

1. Text of 15 USC 260-263, obtained on March 25, 2019 from <http://uscode.house.gov/>²
2. Text of HR 1556, obtained on March 25, 2019 from <https://www.congress.gov/>³

Annotations of amendments, effective dates, and short titles of affecting legislation were removed from the US Code text, leaving only the relevant text of the current statutes. The remaining text was

² <http://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?path=/prelim@title15/chapter6/subchapter9&edition=prelim>

³ <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/1556/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22Daylight+saving%22%5D%7D&r=3&s=1>

imported into Microsoft Word, and then Track Changes was turned on as the changes indicated in HR 1556 were carefully applied.



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This is my interpretation of the result and intent of the legislation as introduced and is not legal advice nor officially sanctioned by any governmental body in any way. Readers are free to read and interpret as they please.