

Time Zone Report – 2016 Wrap-Up

Not much happened in 2016, compared to 2015, but still, it's worthy of a year-end wrap-up by state.

By State

California

AJR 28, sponsored by Assembly member Jay Obernolte, would urge Congress to allow Year-Round DST. This legislation was passed by the Assembly and the Senate on September 1, 2016.

AB 385, introduced by Assembly Member Chu in 2015 and carried over to 2016, would put to the voters whether to exempt the state from DST. Though this bill ultimately failed, it was amended six times from March 2015 through August 2016.

AB 2496, introduced in 2016 by Assembly Member Chu, proposed to adopt Standard Pacific Time as the standard time in the state during the entire year, essentially exempting the state from DST.

Florida

Florida had two identical bills, one in each chamber with the same language. SB 1098 was sponsored by Senator Darren Soto, and HB 893 was sponsored by Representative Kristin Jacobs. Both bills proposed to observe Year-Round DST.

Illinois

A bill similar to one from Illinois's 2015 session was filed in 2016, with HB 6089 sponsored by Representative Joe Sosnowski proposing to adopt Year-Round DST in March of 2016.

Massachusetts

Massachusetts Senator John Keenan filed S 2040 at the request of a constituent. The end goal of this legislation would be to move the state from the Eastern time zone to the Atlantic time zone, but the approach would be to commission a study of what the impact would be, and if that impact was determined to be marginal or positive, the bill would require the governor to request the US Department of Transportation to consider the time zone change.

Michigan

HB 4986, sponsored by Representative Peter Lucido, proposes to exempt the state from DST.

Mississippi

After last year's direct attempt to adopt year-round DST, this year's HC 11, sponsored by Representative Andy Gipson, requests the US Congress to enact legislation to permit Year-Round DST.

Missouri

Two bills in Missouri propose different changes to DST. HJR 71, sponsored by Representative Jason Chipman proposed to eliminate DST, but requires an affirmative vote of the people and adoption of similar legislation in two adjacent states. HJR60, sponsored by Representative Mike Kelly, similarly requires a vote of the people and two adjacent states to adopt similar legislation, but his bill proposes to adopt Year-Round DST.

Oklahoma

With 4 DST-related bills, Oklahoma has the most diversity in proposals of any state.

Two bills in the House have the exact same language proposing to exempt the state from DST: HB 2557, sponsored by Representative Wright, and HB 2853, proposed by Representative Kouplen.

Two bills in the Senate are authored by Senator Yen, with two different proposed actions. One, SB 1229, would simply adopt Year-Round DST in 2016. The other, SB 1228, proposes to adopt Year-Round DST, but only after 20 states enter a Daylight Saving Time Preservation Pact for all member states to switch to Year-Round DST.

South Dakota

Sixteen legislators from South Dakota joined in filing SB 60 to put the state on Year-Round DST.

Utah

Representative Fred Cox sponsored HB 65 to exempt the state from DST.

Washington

Three bills from Washington state's 2015 legislative sessions were reintroduced for the 2016 session.

Two bills, HB 1479 from Representative Scott and SB 5570 from Senators McCoy, Darneille, and Hasegawa, propose to follow Pacific Standard Time throughout the year, essentially exempting the state from DST.

The third bill, sponsored by Representatives Schmick and Stanford, requests the US Congress to amend the federal statutes to permit Year-Round DST.

West Virginia

SB 261, sponsored by Senator Craig Blair, simply corrects the DST dates specified in the Code of West Virginia Section 5-1-25 to match the language in 15 USC 260.

Wyoming

HB 68, with eight sponsors across the House and Senate, proposes to exempt the state from DST.

By Type of Initiative

Exempt from DST

California had AB 2496 sponsored by Assembly Member Chu that proposed to exempt the state from DST.

Michigan's HB 4986 proposed to end DST 90 days after passage.

One of Missouri's two bills (HJR 71) proposes to exempt their state from DST if there is an affirming vote of the people and two adjacent states adopting similar legislation.

Oklahoma has two identically-worded bills proposing to exempt the state from DST: HB 2557 and HB 2853.

Utah's HB 65 proposed to exempt the state from DST.

Two of Washington state's 3 bills propose to adopt standard time year round, essentially exempting the state from DST.

Wyoming's HB 68, with sponsorship across both chambers, proposes to exempt the state from DST.

[Adopt Year-Round DST](#)

If you've been following Time Zone Report at all, you know that many states propose to adopt Year-Round DST, and you also know that this is not permitted by the US code and various rules and regulations relating to the keeping of standard time. Still, state legislators like to think they can holler "state's rights!" and do whatever they want. But none of these bills has ever passed, so at least their colleagues are sensible enough to stop the bills before they rile up the feds.

- California proposed to put the question of Year-Round DST to the voters.
- Two identical bills in Florida
- A bill from Illinois, similar to one from 2015, proposed to go on Year-Round DST in March 2016.
- One of Missouri's two bills (HJR 60) proposed to adopt Year-Round DST if there is an affirming vote of the people and two adjacent states adopting similar legislation.
- Two bills from Oklahoma, one of which would simply adopt Year-Round DST, and the other would require 20 states to enter into a Daylight Saving Time Preservation Pact and agree to go on Year-Round DST together.
- South Dakota's SB 60, filed by 16 legislators across both chambers, would adopt Year-Round DST for the state.

[Change Time Zone](#)

A Massachusetts bill would commission a study of the impact of moving from Eastern to Atlantic time, and if that impact was marginal or positive, would have the governor make the request of the US DOT.

[Resolution to US Congress](#)

California's AJR 28 urges the US Congress and the President to amend the federal statutes to permit Year-Round DST. This measure was passed!

Mississippi's HC 11 asks Congress to permit Year-Round DST.

One of Washington state's three bills asks the US Congress to amend the federal statutes to permit Year-Round DST.

[Administrative Changes or Corrections](#)

West Virginia's SB 261 corrects the start and end dates of DST to match the federal code.