

Ohio lawmakers vote to ask Congress to make daylight saving time permanent

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Cincinnati Enquirer

Ohio lawmakers voted Wednesday to ask Congress to make daylight saving time permanent.

The resolution passed by the Ohio House urges Congress to enact the Sunshine Uniformity Act of 2023.

Under the Uniform Time Act of 1966, states have the freedom to change to standard time, but not daylight saving time. Right now, Arizona and Hawaii are the only states with permanent time.

House Concurrent Resolution 7 passed in a 64-19 vote. It was sponsored by state Reps. Rodney Creech, R-West Alexandria, and Bob Peterson, R-Sabina.

"The main argument for making daylight saving time permanent in Ohio is there would no longer be the biannual tradition of changing our clocks," Creech said.

Switching to daylight saving time would increase the hours of sunlight in the evenings during the winter months, which helps combat mental health issues, Creech added.

Springing clocks forward and falling back was originally introduced during World War I to save energy, but Peterson said it's time to consider its relevance in modern lives.

H.C.R. 7 needs the Ohio Senate's approval before it heads to Gov. Mike DeWine.