

LFC Requester:

Norton Francis

### AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS - 2026 REGULAR SESSION

#### SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

*{Indicate if analysis is on an original bill, amendment, substitute or a correction of a previous bill}*

Date Prepared: 1/23/26

Check all that apply:

Bill Number: HB 112

Original  Correction   
Amendment  Substitute

Sponsor: Rep. John Block

Agency Name and Code Number: 305 – New Mexico Department of Justice

Person Writing

Short Title: Daylight Saving Time Year-Round

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#### SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

##### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27		

(Parenthesis ( ) indicate expenditure decreases)

##### REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27	FY28		

(Parenthesis ( ) indicate revenue decreases)

#### ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY26	FY27	FY28	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>						

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to:  
 Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

**SECTION III: NARRATIVE**

*This analysis is neither a formal Opinion nor an Advisory Letter issued by the New Mexico Department of Justice. This is a staff analysis in response to a committee or legislator’s request. The analysis does not represent any official policy or legal position of the NM Department of Justice.*

**BILL SUMMARY**

Synopsis: HB 112 exempts New Mexico from the Uniform Time Act of 1966, thereby keeping New Mexico on Daylight Saving Time year-round.

**Section 1** exempts New Mexico from 15 U.S.C. § 260a and “adopts daylight saving time as the year-round standard of time for the entire state and all its political subdivisions.” It states that this legislation is not to be construed to affect standard time established by federal law governing movement of common carriers in interstate commerce or the time for performance of an act by an officer or a department of the United States, as established by statutes and rules. It defines “daylight saving time” as the federal standard time established pursuant to the Uniform Time Act during the period commencing at 2:00 a.m. on the second Sunday of March of each year and ending at 2:00 a.m. on the first Sunday of November of each year.

**Section 2** appropriates \$100,000 to the Department of Information Technology for expenditure in FY 2027 and 2028 for conversion of state information technology systems to permanent daylight saving time.

**Section 3** sets forth a contingent effective date. The provisions of this bill would take effect on the second Sunday of March or the first Sunday of November, whichever occurs first, after a federal law authorizes states to exempt themselves from 15 U.S.C. § 260a, if either (1) the State of Texas exempts itself or a part of Texas that includes El Paso County from 15 U.S.C. § 260a, and has adopted daylight saving time for the State of Texas or El Paso County; or (2) the El Paso County Commission enacts an ordinance exempting El Paso from Section 260a.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

None for the NMDOJ.

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

This bill may face a federal law preemption challenge. *See* 15 U.S.C. § 260a(b) (“[I]t is the express intent of Congress by this supersede any and all laws of the States or political subdivisions thereof insofar as they may now or hereafter provide for advances in time or changeover dates different from those specified in this section.”). Under 15 U.S.C. Section 260a, Congress only authorized a state to exempt itself from the provision requiring daylight saving time if the legislation exempting the state “provides that the entire State . . . shall observe the

standard time otherwise applicable during that period.” HB 112 would require the state to permanently observe daylight saving time instead of observing standard time that would be applicable from the second Sunday of March through the first Sunday of November each year.

### **PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

None for the NMDOJ.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

None for the NMDOJ.

### **CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP**

None apparent.

### **TECHNICAL ISSUES**

None apparent.

### **OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

One of the alternative conditions for the effective date in Section 3 provides that the provisions of this bill would be effective if the El Paso County Commission passed an ordinance exempting it from the provisions of 15 U.S.C. Section 260a. However, 15 U.S.C. Section 260a only allows states to exempt all or part of the state from the provisions of Section 260a; it does not appear that a county or municipality is authorized by Congress to exempt itself from the provisions of Section 260a. Therefore, it is unclear how this alternative condition set forth in HB 112, Section 3, would come to fruition.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

This bill could be rewritten to exempt New Mexico from the provisions of Section 260a by providing that the entire state would observe standard time.

### **WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL**

Status quo.

### **AMENDMENTS**

N/A