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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Gonzales **ORIGINAL DATE** 1/23/19
LAST UPDATED 1/29/19 **HB** 73/aHSEIC

SHORT TITLE Exempt NM From Daylight Savings Time **SB** _____

ANALYST Chabot

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY19	FY20	FY21	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total		No Fiscal Impact				

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

New Mexico Attorney General (NMAG)

New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of HSEIC Amendment

The House State Government, Elections & Indian Affairs Committee amendment to House Bill 73 makes editorial changes without changing the intent of the bill.

Synopsis of Original Bill

House Bill 73 exempts New Mexico from the Federal law requiring the observance of Daylight-Savings Time effective January 1, 2020.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The bill has no fiscal impact.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Under the federal Uniform Time Act, a state that resides entirely within a time zone may exempt itself from complying with the requirement to observe Daylight Savings Time. This bill would allow New Mexico to remain on Mountain Standard Time year round.

The arguments for and against daylight savings time are mostly emotional and are not proven by fact. Proponents for argue daylight savings time will save energy used for outdoor lighting. However, in a report to Congress in 2008, it was estimated that the savings were approximately 0.02 percent. A study in Australia concluded that there were no savings as reduced energy consumption in the evening was offset by increased use in early morning hours. Others emphasize it improves safety for school children by allowing them to travel to schools in daylight hours. Some argue it allows for more spending by individuals after work because it is still daylight. On the other side, opponents argue that it interferes with farming schedules, and problems for those with set sleep patterns. Sleep deprivation is often cited as an unintended consequence of daylight savings time.

There is a move in several countries to establish permanent time zones without changes for daylight savings. The Canadian province of Saskatchewan is an example. Arizona has no daylight savings (except for the Navajo Nation) and Florida enacted permanent daylight savings time.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

For consistency with 15 U.S.C. § 260a(a), NMAG recommends the following changes to the language of HB73 be considered:

SECTION 1. [NEW MATERIAL] FINDINGS.--The legislature finds that:

- A. ~~the standard time of the entire state of New Mexico~~ lies entirely within one time zone - is mountain standard time;
- B. federal law requires the advancement of mountain standard time by one hour during ~~for~~ a portion of each year, a period commonly known as "~~daylight-saving~~ daylight saving time"; and
- C. ~~that subsection~~ federal law also allows a state that lies entirely within one time zone ~~the mountain standard time zone~~ to exempt itself by law from the requirement to advance time for daylight saving if the ~~law~~ exemption applies to the entire state.

SECTION 2. [NEW MATERIAL] MOUNTAIN STANDARD TIME--NO ADVANCEMENT FOR DAYLIGHT SAVING.--Effective January 1, 2020, the entire state of New Mexico:

- A. shall be exempt ~~exempts~~ itself from ~~the~~ federal law that requires advancing time for daylight saving; and
- B. shall throughout the year observe mountain standard time without the advancement of time for daylight saving.