

By: Metcalf

H.B. No. 1425

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to authorizing a statewide referendum allowing voters to
3 indicate a preference for observing daylight saving time
4 year-round.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

6 SECTION 1. Section 312.016, Government Code, is amended by
7 adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

8 (d) The state, acting as authorized under federal law, shall
9 observe daylight saving time year-round. This subsection applies
10 to both the portion of the state using central standard time as the
11 official standard time and the portion of the state using mountain
12 standard time as the official standard time.

13 SECTION 2. (a) At the general election to be held on
14 November 7, 2023, a statewide referendum shall be conducted to
15 allow the voters of this state to indicate a preference for
16 observing daylight saving time year-round.

17 (b) The ballot for the referendum shall be printed to permit
18 voting for or against the proposition: "The state should observe
19 daylight saving time year-round."

20 (c) The proposition for the referendum shall be printed on
21 the ballot under the heading: "Referendum Proposition" immediately
22 following the proposed constitutional amendment authorizing a
23 statewide referendum to allow the voters to vote for or against
24 observing daylight saving time year-round.

1 (d) Notice of the election shall be given in the same manner
2 that notice of proposed constitutional amendments is given.

3 (e) Returns of the votes cast on the proposition shall be
4 prepared and canvassed in the same manner as the returns on the
5 proposed constitutional amendments. Immediately after the results
6 of the election are certified, the secretary of state shall
7 transmit a copy of the certification to the lieutenant governor and
8 the speaker of the house of representatives.

9 SECTION 3. (a) Section 1 of this Act takes effect only if
10 the constitutional amendment proposed by the 88th Legislature,
11 Regular Session, 2023, authorizing the statewide referendum under
12 Section 2 of this Act is approved by the voters, a majority of the
13 votes cast in the statewide referendum are in favor of "Observing
14 daylight saving time year-round," and the United States Congress
15 enacts legislation that becomes law that authorizes the State of
16 Texas to observe daylight saving time year-round. If the United
17 States Congress does not enact legislation that becomes law
18 described by this subsection, Section 1 of this Act has no effect.

19 (b) If the constitutional amendment proposed by the 88th
20 Legislature, Regular Session, 2023, authorizing the statewide
21 referendum under Section 2 of this Act is approved by the voters and
22 a majority of the votes cast in the statewide referendum are against
23 "Observing daylight saving time year-round," Section 1 of this Act
24 does not take effect.

25 SECTION 4. (a) Except as otherwise provided by this Act,
26 this Act takes effect immediately if this Act receives a vote of
27 two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by

1 Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not
2 receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes
3 effect September 1, 2023.

4 (b) This Act takes effect only if the 88th Legislature,
5 Regular Session, 2023, proposes a constitutional amendment
6 authorizing a referendum election on the issue of daylight saving
7 time. If the 88th Legislature, Regular Session, 2023, does not
8 propose such a constitutional amendment, this Act has no effect.

9 (c) Sections 2 and 3 of this Act take effect only if the
10 constitutional amendment proposed by the 88th Legislature, Regular
11 Session, 2023, authorizing a referendum election on the issue of
12 daylight saving time is approved by the voters. If that amendment
13 is not approved by the voters, Sections 2 and 3 of this Act have no
14 effect.