

Senate Resolution 1113

By: Senator Harp of the 29th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Creating the Senate Study Committee on Daylight Saving Time; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, for decades, conventional wisdom has held that daylight saving time, which in
3 2008 begins on March 9, reduces energy use; and
- 4 WHEREAS, there is a unique situation in Indiana that provides evidence that challenges the
5 view that daylight saving time may actually waste energy; and
- 6 WHEREAS, until two years ago, only 15 of Indiana's 92 counties participated in daylight
7 saving time, whereas the rest stayed on standard time all year; and
- 8 WHEREAS, by utilizing more than 7 million monthly meter readings from an energy
9 corporation, covering nearly all the households in southern Indiana for three years,
10 researchers were able to compare energy consumption before and after counties began
11 observing daylight saving time; and
- 12 WHEREAS, the finding of this study determined that by having the entire state switch to
13 daylight saving time each year, rather than stay on standard time, costs Indiana households
14 an additional \$8.6 million in electricity bills; and
- 15 WHEREAS, the energy-savings numbers often cited by lawmakers and others are from
16 research conducted in the 1970's; and
- 17 WHEREAS, there may be social benefits to daylight saving time that were not covered in the
18 research; and
- 19 WHEREAS, there is an ongoing debate as to whether daylight saving time's increased
20 energy costs can be balanced against less crime, fewer traffic fatalities, more recreation time,
21 and increased economic activity with the additional sunlight in the evenings.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that there is created the Senate
2 Study Committee on Daylight Saving Time to be composed of five members of the Senate
3 to be appointed by the Lieutenant Governor. The Lieutenant Governor shall designate one
4 of the members of the committee to serve as chairperson of the committee. The chairperson
5 shall call all meetings of the committee.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,
7 needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any actions
8 or legislation that the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may
9 conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or
10 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and
11 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The members of the committee
12 shall receive the allowances authorized for legislative members of interim legislative
13 committees but shall receive the same for not more than five days unless additional days are
14 authorized. The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come
15 from the funds appropriated to the Senate. In the event that the committee makes a report
16 of its findings and recommendations with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such
17 report shall be made on or before December 31, 2008. The committee shall stand abolished
18 on December 31, 2008.