
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 796 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY BOSCOLA AND SAVAL, JUNE 14, 2023

REFERRED TO STATE GOVERNMENT, JUNE 14, 2023

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of April 13, 1887 (P.L.21, No.18), entitled "An
2 act for the establishment of a uniform standard of time
3 throughout the Commonwealth," providing for atlantic standard
4 time; and prohibiting the use of daylight saving time.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. The General Assembly declares that the sole and
8 uniform legal standard of time throughout this Commonwealth,
9 including municipalities of this Commonwealth, shall be atlantic
10 standard time and that daylight saving time shall not be used as
11 a standard of time.

12 Section 2. Section 1 of the act of April 13, 1887 (P.L.21,
13 No.18), entitled "An act for the establishment of a uniform
14 standard of time throughout the Commonwealth," is amended to
15 read:

16 Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That (a) on and after the
17 first day of July, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and
18 eighty-seven, the mean solar time of the [seventy-fifth]
19 sixtieth meridian of longitude west of Greenwich, commonly

1 called [eastern] atlantic standard time, shall be the sole and
2 uniform legal standard of time throughout this Commonwealth; and
3 on and after the date aforesaid all days shall everywhere be
4 taken to begin and end in accordance with said standard; and
5 every mention of, or reference to, any hour or time in any and
6 all existing future acts of Assembly, municipal ordinances, and
7 corporate bylaws, in any and all existing or future rules or
8 regulations adopted by any public officer or official board, in
9 any and all rules of the courts of the Commonwealth or any of
10 them, whether standing or special, and whether now in force or
11 hereafter to be promulgated, in any and all orders, judgments
12 and decrees of said courts of any of them, and judgments and
13 sentences of magistrates pronounced or entered on or after the
14 date aforesaid, in any and all contracts, deeds, wills, and
15 notices, and in the transaction of all matters of business,
16 public, legal, commercial, or otherwise,--shall be construed
17 with reference to, and in accordance with, the said standard
18 hereby adopted, unless a different standard is therein expressly
19 provided for: Provided, however, That this act shall not operate
20 to impose upon any person any forfeiture of rights, or subject
21 him to the consequences of any default, by reason of any
22 failure, occurring prior to the date aforesaid, to comply with
23 the requirement of, or do any act under or in pursuance of any
24 law, ordinance, contract, notice, deed, will, regulation, rule,
25 order, judgment, sentence, or decree, if such person shall,
26 before the said date, have properly done the act or acts which
27 would be requisite to save such forfeiture or prevent such
28 default had this law not been enacted: And provided, further,
29 That when the standard time shall be advanced, for any portion
30 of the year, by any act of Congress, now in force or hereafter

1 passed, the time so fixed by such act of Congress shall be the
2 standard time of this Commonwealth for such portion of the year:
3 And provided, That no county, city, borough, town, township, or
4 other municipal subdivision of the Commonwealth shall, by
5 ordinance, resolution, or rule, adopt a different standard of
6 time for any year, or any portion of the year, than that herein
7 provided; and all ordinances, resolutions and rules heretofore
8 adopted, contrary to this proviso, are declared to be void and
9 of no effect.

10 [(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a), the
11 standard of time in this State, between 2 o'clock antemeridian
12 on the last Sunday in April and 2 o'clock antemeridian on the
13 last Sunday in October of each year, shall be one hour in
14 advance of that prescribed above, commonly known as daylight
15 saving time.]

16 Section 3. If more than one state contiguous to the
17 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania enacts a law directing a state
18 official to request the United States Secretary of
19 Transportation to place that state in the atlantic time zone,
20 the Governor shall transmit a similar request on behalf of the
21 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

22 Section 4. If the United States Secretary of Transportation
23 approves the request of the Governor, the Governor shall
24 transmit a notice to the Legislative Reference Bureau for
25 publication in the next available issue of the Pennsylvania
26 Bulletin.

27 Section 5. The amendment of section 1(b) of the act shall
28 apply to calendar years beginning on and after the effective
29 date of this section.

30 Section 6. This act shall take effect as follows:

1 (1) The amendment of section 1(a) of the act shall take
2 effect on the first Sunday in November following publication
3 of the notice required under section 4 of this act.

4 (2) The remainder of this act shall take effect
5 immediately.