By Senator Glover

First Read: 05-MAR-15
URGING CONGRESS TO FIX DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME.

WHEREAS the history of changing clocks relative to the sun for political reasons originated with Ben Franklin, who proposed re-orienting the time to increase productivity as an elaborate practical joke; and

WHEREAS the United States has used some version of "Daylight Saving Time" since 1918 when it was rushed into place as a wartime measure after Germany and then England enacted a similar scheme; and

WHEREAS after World War I local jurisdictions had some control over how they set their clocks until the passage of the Uniform Time Act of 1966, at which point the Federal Department of Transportation has had ultimate authority and has turned down any efforts by state and local governments to release themselves from time zone uniformity; and

WHEREAS uniformity among the 50 states is essential for interstate commerce, even with Arizona and Hawaii being granted a grandfathered exemption; and
WHEREAS "Daylight Saving Time" has proven highly beneficial in the early spring, late fall and summer months for health, commerce, recreation and much more, making it highly popular among businesses and the general population; and

WHEREAS the overwhelming conclusion of researchers is that the act of changing the clocks twice per year is the direct cause of deadly heart attacks, traffic accidents, and a loss of productivity; and

WHEREAS researchers have determined that remaining in Daylight Saving Time year round will save significant amounts of energy in November and February and furthermore will lead to a decrease in childhood obesity by increasing the amount of sunlight after school hours; and

WHEREAS the rationale for switching clocks twice per year to aid in the war effort — while based on faulty science — was laudable nearly 100 years ago, all scientific research and public sentiment now clearly favor remaining in Daylight Saving Time year round; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That it is the sentiment of this legislative body and of the people represented by the Alabama Legislature that the United States should change what is currently "Daylight Saving Time" to the new "Standard Time" and stay with that time year-round.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be delivered to the legislative leaders in all of the other 49
states urging them to pass a resolution with essentially
similar wording.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be
delivered to the President of the United States, and the
Secretary of the United States Department of Transportation
urging them to allow all requesting states to switch to
permanent Daylight Saving Time at a uniform date to minimize
confusion and disruption to transportation and commerce, and
further to allow those states that have not passed this
resolution a chance to add themselves to the list of those
states endorsing this resolution to forever put an end to the
deadly, energy-wasting, productivity-killing twice-yearly
clock changing.