



THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20590

June 20, 2018

The Honorable Greg Walden
Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letter regarding Daylight Saving Time. As you know, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) is charged with enforcement of this policy under the Uniform Time Act, 15 U.S.C. §§ 260-264.

You asked for updated information regarding the costs associated with the biannual change between Daylight Saving Time and Standard Time, and whether DOT is aware of any updated research associated with it. The most recent report that we have concerning Daylight Saving Time is the 2007 Department of Energy report that you reference. The Department occasionally receives inquiries, complaints, and recommendations regarding time standards. However, there is no predominant theme or trend with respect to the input.

The Department considers changes in the application of time zones upon the request of State and local governments. Because the nine time zones of the United States are established by regulation, DOT evaluates whether the requested time zone change would serve the convenience of commerce through the rulemaking process. In addition to a notice of proposed rulemaking proposing a change to a time zone, a public hearing is usually held in the affected community.

However, in response to this inquiry, the Department initiated a literature review of this issue. Once completed, we will share the results of this review with you and your staff.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Elaine L. Chao'.

Elaine L. Chao