

**A POSITION OF SUPPORT FOR RESTORING INDIANA
TO THE CENTRAL TIME ZONE**

WHEREAS, US time zones established by the railroads in 1883 and officially adopted by Congress in the Standard Time Act of 1918 identified that the geographically correct time zone for all of Indiana is the Central Time Zone, and;

WHEREAS, 1960's technology prompted portions of Indiana to change to Eastern Time to improve communications with finance and business centers on the East Coast and, in the meantime, modern communications have negated the advantage of Eastern Time to Indiana's commerce; and

WHEREAS, excessive morning darkness in Indiana's Eastern Time counties has caused safety hazards for students waiting for their school buses, walking and driving to school and, on Central Time Indiana's latest sunrise would be approximately 7:15 with morning twilight beginning 30 minutes earlier and the majority of travel to and from school would occur in sunlight; and

WHEREAS, Central Time's one hour earlier sunsets would promote indoor time for homework and earlier bedtimes; and

WHEREAS, studies have proven that students' readiness to learn and their classroom performance are increased when their environment is compatible with their natural circadian rhythms and Central Time would provide an environment that is substantially more compatible with all of Indiana's citizens' natural circadian rhythms (students, teachers, parents, etc.); and

WHEREAS, school delays waste an average of \$10-per-student-per-hour and undermine the quality, as well as quantity, of education on delay days and it is estimated that an extra hour of morning sunlight would cut 2-hour delays in half and would have converted over \$30 million from "wasted" spending to "productive" spending in Indiana's Eastern Time school districts this past school year; and

WHEREAS, the division of Indiana into Eastern and Central time zone sections causes confusion and creates scheduling problems for schools, parents, and businesses; and

WHEREAS, observing daylight saving time promotes and facilitates Indiana commerce with most of the rest of the United States;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the _____
School Board supports restoring Indiana to its geographically correct Central Time Zone. Specifically, we support observing Central Standard Time during the winter months and Central Daylight Time during the rest of the year.

Approved this _____ day of _____, 2011

