

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 50

To amend title 3, United States Code, and the Uniform Time Act of 1966 to establish a single poll closing time for Presidential general elections.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 22, 2001

Mr. STEVENS (for himself, Mr. INOUE, and Mr. MURKOWSKI) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration

A BILL

To amend title 3, United States Code, and the Uniform Time Act of 1966 to establish a single poll closing time for Presidential general elections.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Uniform Poll Closing
5 Act of 2000.”

6 **SEC. 2. SINGLE POLL CLOSING TIME FOR PRESIDENTIAL**
7 **GENERAL ELECTIONS.**

8 Chapter 1 of title 3, United States Code, is amended
9 by—

- 1 (1) redesignating section 21 as section 22; and
2 (2) inserting after section 20 the following new
3 section:

4 **“SEC. 21. SINGLE POLL CLOSING TIME.**

5 “(a) Each polling place in each State shall close, with
6 respect to a Presidential general election, at 9:00 o’clock
7 post meridiem, eastern standard time. Any person who,
8 as determined under the law of the State involved, arrives
9 at a polling place after that time shall not be permitted
10 to vote in the Presidential general election.

11 “(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), a polling place
12 shall close, with respect to a Presidential general election,
13 as provided by the law of the State involved, in the case
14 of a polling place at which each person who is eligible to
15 vote has voted.

16 “(c) Notwithstanding section 1 or any other provision
17 of law, in the case of the States of Alaska and Hawaii,
18 a State may open polling places with respect to a Presi-
19 dential general election during the day preceding the day
20 provided under such section in addition to the day pro-
21 vided under such section, so long as the State meets the
22 requirements of subsection (a) with respect to the day pro-
23 vided under such section.

1 “(d) As used in this section, the ‘Presidential general
2 election’ means the election for electors of President and
3 Vice President.”.

4 **SEC. 3. EXTENDED DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME IN PACIFIC**
5 **TIME ZONE IN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION**
6 **YEARS.**

7 Section 3 of the Uniform Time Act of 1966 (15
8 U.S.C. 260a) is amended by adding at the end of the fol-
9 lowing new subsection:

10 “(d)(1) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this sec-
11 tion, in each year in which a Presidential general election
12 takes place, the period of time during which the standard
13 time shall be advanced with respect to the Pacific time
14 zone shall end at 2:00 o’clock ante meridiem on the first
15 Sunday after the date of that election.

16 “(2) As used in this subsection, the term ‘Presi-
17 dential general election’ means the election for electors of
18 President and Vice President.”.

19 **SEC. 4. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.**

20 (a) AMENDMENTS TO TITLE 3, UNITED STATES
21 CODE.—The table of sections for chapter 1 of title 3,
22 United States code, is amended—

23 (1) by redesignating the item relating to section
24 21 as the item relating to section 22; and

1 (2) by inserting after the item relating to sec-
2 tion 20 the following new item:

“21. Single poll closing time in continental United States.”.

3 (b) AMENDMENTS TO UNIFORM TIME ACT OF
4 1966.—Section 3(a) of the Uniform Time Act of 1966 (15
5 U.S.C. 260a(a)) is amended by striking out “2 o’clock
6 antemeridian” each place it appears and inserting in lieu
7 thereof “2:00 o’clock ante meridiem.”.

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