

Re: Daylight Savings? indiana

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- *From:* "Michael Paoli" <michaellcat@xxxxxxxxxx>
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Jordan Abel wrote:

With the day to 'spring forward' coming up fast, many systems are still using old versions of tzdata that still are not updated for Indiana's change this year, or the nationwide (and more and more of Canada with each passing month) change next year. Thoughts?

<soapbox>

There are other proposals, e.g.:

<http://www.standardtime.com/proposal.shtml>

I tend to think the mucking about with the clocks is bunk. And having the rules by which when and how the changes occur subject to the prevailing political winds only makes matters worse.

Why don't we just stop screwing around with the clocks (drop the daylight / summer time conversions), and if we still really want to shift schedules about by an hour, have a national (or better yet, hemispherical) shift your scheduled by an hour day (well, two such days per year), and stop screwing around with the clocks (except of course the appropriate leap second adjustments). And, speaking of which, don't change the leap second – it's fine for now (and many many many years into the future). Getting rid of the leap second is also a bad idea. – if software needs to be corrected to properly handle the leap seconds (which have been around and well documented for well over a decade), then fix the software. But repeatedly/continually mucking about with daylight/summer time stuff, and requiring increasingly more frequent and complex software changes, and a rather increasingly nasty and complex mapping between absolute time and relative local times for different times/dates in history – that's just asking for trouble that needn't be there, and for no substantially offsetting gain.

</soapbox>

In the meantime, manage to get your software / operating system vendors/distributors to provide the updates such that the software's view/presentation of time will correspond to the ever changing laws and practices.

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