

2 ESHJR 4204 - S COMM AMD
3 By Committee on Education

4 ADOPTED 4/13/93; BILL FAILED FP 4/19/93

5 On page 1, after line 2, strike everything through "effect." on
6 page 4, line 16 and insert the following:

7 "THAT, At the next general election to be held in this state there
8 shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the state for their
9 approval and ratification, or rejection, an amendment to Article VII,
10 section 2 and Article VIII, section 6 of the Constitution of the state
11 of Washington to read as follows:

12 Article VII, section 2. Except as hereinafter provided and
13 notwithstanding any other provision of this Constitution, the aggregate
14 of all tax levies upon real and personal property by the state and all
15 taxing districts now existing or hereafter created, shall not in any
16 year exceed one per centum of the true and fair value of such property
17 in money: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That nothing herein shall prevent levies
18 at the rates now provided by law by or for any port or public utility
19 district. The term "taxing district" for the purposes of this section
20 shall mean any political subdivision, municipal corporation, district,
21 or other governmental agency authorized by law to levy, or have levied
22 for it, ad valorem taxes on property, other than a port or public
23 utility district. Such aggregate limitation or any specific limitation
24 imposed by law in conformity therewith may be exceeded only

25 (a) By any taxing district when specifically authorized so to do by
26 a majority of at least three-fifths of the (~~electors~~) voters thereof
27 voting on the proposition to levy such additional tax submitted not
28 more than twelve months prior to the date on which the proposed initial
29 levy is to be made and not oftener than twice in such twelve month
30 period, either at a special election or at the regular election of such
31 taxing district, at which election the number of (~~persons~~) voters
32 voting "yes" on the proposition shall constitute three-fifths of a
33 number equal to forty per centum of the total (~~votes cast~~) number of
34 voters voting in such taxing district at the last preceding general
35 election when the number of (~~electors~~) voters voting on the
36 proposition does not exceed forty per centum of the total (~~votes~~

1 east)) number of voters voting in such taxing district in the last
2 preceding general election; or by a majority of at least three-fifths
3 of the ((electors)) voters thereof voting on the proposition to levy
4 when the number of ((electors)) voters voting on the proposition
5 exceeds forty ((percentum)) per centum of the total ((votes—cast))
6 number of voters voting in such taxing district in the last preceding
7 general election: PROVIDED, That notwithstanding any other provision
8 of this Constitution, any proposition pursuant to this subsection to
9 levy additional tax for the support of the common schools may provide
10 such support for a two year period and any proposition to levy an
11 additional tax to support the construction, modernization, or
12 remodelling of school facilities may provide such support for a period
13 not exceeding six years: PROVIDED FURTHER, That a proposition under
14 this subsection to levy an additional tax for a school district shall
15 be authorized if approved by a majority of the voters voting on the
16 proposition;

17 (b) By any taxing district otherwise authorized by law to issue
18 general obligation bonds for capital purposes, for the sole purpose of
19 making the required payments of principal and interest on general
20 obligation bonds issued solely for capital purposes, other than the
21 replacement of equipment, when authorized so to do by majority of at
22 least three-fifths of the ((electors)) voters thereof voting on the
23 proposition to issue such bonds and to pay the principal and interest
24 thereon by an annual tax levy in excess of the limitation herein
25 provided during the term of such bonds, submitted not oftener than
26 twice in any calendar year, at an election held in the manner provided
27 by law for bond elections in such taxing district, at which election
28 the total number of ((persons)) voters voting on the proposition shall
29 constitute not less than forty per centum of the total number of
30 ((votes—cast)) voters voting in such taxing district at the last
31 preceding general election: PROVIDED, That any such taxing district
32 shall have the right by vote of its governing body to refund any
33 general obligation bonds of said district issued for capital purposes
34 only, and to provide for the interest thereon and amortization thereof
35 by annual levies in excess of the tax limitation provided for
36 herein((7)): PROVIDED FURTHER, That a proposition by a school district
37 to issue bonds with a term of nine years or less, and to pay the
38 principal and interest on the bonds by an annual tax levy during the
39 term of the bonds in excess of the limitation provided in this section,

1 shall be authorized if approved by a majority of the voters voting on
2 the proposition: PROVIDED FURTHER, That a proposition by a school
3 district to issue bonds with a term greater than nine years and to pay
4 the principal and interest on the bonds by an annual tax levy during
5 the term of the bonds in excess of the limitation provided in this
6 section shall be authorized if approved by at least three-fifths of the
7 voters voting on the proposition: AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That the
8 provisions of this section shall also be subject to the limitations
9 contained in Article VIII, Section 6, of this Constitution;

10 (c) By the state or any taxing district for the purpose of paying
11 the principal or interest on general obligation bonds outstanding on
12 December 6, 1934; or for the purpose of preventing the impairment of
13 the obligation of a contract when ordered so to do by a court of last
14 resort.

15 Article VIII, section 6. No county, city, town, (~~school~~
16 ~~district,~~) or other municipal corporation shall for any purpose become
17 indebted in any manner to an amount exceeding one and one-half per
18 centum of the taxable property in such county, city, town, (~~school~~
19 ~~district,~~) or other municipal corporation, without the assent of
20 three-fifths of the voters therein voting at an election to be held for
21 that purpose, nor in cases requiring such assent shall the total
22 indebtedness at any time exceed five per centum on the value of the
23 taxable property therein, to be ascertained by the last assessment
24 (~~for state and county purposes previous to the incurring of such~~
25 ~~indebtedness, except that in incorporated cities the assessment shall~~
26 ~~be taken from the last assessment for city purposes)): PROVIDED, That~~
27 the assent necessary to authorize a school district to incur such debt
28 shall be a majority vote: PROVIDED FURTHER, That no part of the
29 indebtedness allowed in this section shall be incurred for any purpose
30 other than strictly county, city, town, school district, or other
31 municipal purposes: PROVIDED FURTHER, That (a) any city or town, with
32 such assent, may be allowed to become indebted to a larger amount, but
33 not exceeding five per centum additional for supplying such city or
34 town with water, artificial light, and sewers, when the works for
35 supplying such water, light, and sewers shall be owned and controlled
36 by the municipality and (b) any school district with (~~such~~) majority
37 assent, may be allowed to become indebted to a larger amount but not
38 exceeding five per centum additional for capital outlays.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the foregoing amendment shall be
2 construed as a single amendment within the meaning of Article XXIII,
3 section 1 of the state Constitution.

4 The legislature finds that the changes contained in the foregoing
5 amendment constitute a single integrated plan providing for a simple
6 majority of electors voting to authorize school district levies and
7 bonds with a term of nine years or less; and providing for at least
8 three-fifths of the electors voting to authorize school district bonds
9 with a term of greater than nine years. If the foregoing amendment is
10 held to be separate amendments, this joint resolution shall be void in
11 its entirety and shall be of no further force and effect."

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