
SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 8214

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Senators Fraser and M. Rasmussen

Read first time 02/05/93. Referred to Committee on Labor & Commerce.

1 BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
2 STATE OF WASHINGTON, IN LEGISLATIVE SESSION ASSEMBLED:

3 THAT, At the next general election to be held in this state there
4 shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the state for their
5 approval and ratification, or rejection, an amendment to Article VII,
6 of the Constitution of the state of Washington by amending section 2
7 and by adding a new section, both to read as follows:

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

1 limitation or any specific limitation imposed by law in conformity
2 therewith may be exceeded only:

3 (a) By any taxing district when specifically authorized so to do by
4 a majority of at least three-fifths of the electors thereof voting on
5 the proposition to levy such additional tax submitted not more than
6 twelve months prior to the date on which the proposed levy is to be
7 made and not oftener than twice in such twelve month period, either at
8 a special election or at the regular election of such taxing district,
9 at which election the number of persons voting "yes" on the
10 proposition shall constitute three-fifths of a number equal to forty
11 per centum of the total votes cast in such taxing district at the last
12 preceding general election when the number of electors voting on the
13 proposition does not exceed forty per centum of the total votes cast in
14 such taxing district in the last preceding general election; or by a
15 majority of at least three-fifths of the electors thereof voting on the
16 proposition to levy when the number of electors voting on the
17 proposition exceeds forty per centum of the total votes cast in such
18 taxing district in the last preceding general election: PROVIDED, That
19 notwithstanding any other provision of this Constitution, any
20 proposition pursuant to this subsection to levy additional tax for the
21 support of the common schools may provide such support for a two year
22 period and any proposition to levy an additional tax to support the
23 construction, modernization, or remodelling of school facilities may
24 provide such support for a period not exceeding six years((?)).

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

1 to refund any general obligation bonds of said district issued for
2 capital purposes only, and to provide for the interest thereon and
3 amortization thereof by annual levies in excess of the tax limitation
4 provided for herein, AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That the provisions of this
5 section shall also be subject to the limitations contained in Article
6 VIII, Section 6, of this Constitution((?)).

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

12 (d) By the state or county for the purpose of funding the relief
13 program authorized in section 12 of this Article.

14 Article VII, section 12. Notwithstanding any other provision of
15 this Constitution, the legislature shall have the power, by appropriate
16 legislation, to grant to low-income renters relief from property taxes
17 on the real property occupied as a residence by those persons. The
18 legislature shall define "low-income" and may place such restrictions
19 and conditions upon the granting of such relief as it shall deem
20 proper. The relief may be funded by ad valorem property levies at the
21 state or county level or by such other method as may be provided by the
22 legislature.

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

26 The legislature finds that the changes contained in the foregoing
27 amendment constitute a single integrated plan for the provision of
28 property tax relief to renters. If the foregoing amendment is held to
29 be separate amendments, this joint resolution shall be void in its
30 entirety and shall be of no further force and effect.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the secretary of state shall cause
32 notice of the foregoing constitutional amendment to be published at
33 least four times during the four weeks next preceding the election in
34 every legal newspaper in the state.

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