
SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 8213

State of Washington 55th Legislature 1998 Regular Session

By Senators Zarelli, West, Rossi, Stevens, Anderson and Swecker

Read first time . Referred to Committee on .

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 the
4 secretary of state shall submit to the qualified voters of the state
5 for their approval and ratification, or rejection, an amendment to
6 Article II, of the Constitution of the state of Washington by adding a
7 new section to read as follows:

8 Article II, section (1) Any action or combination of
9 actions by the legislature that raises state general fund revenue may
10 be taken only if approved by a two-thirds vote of each house of the
11 legislature.

12 (2) The emergency reserve fund is established in the state
13 treasury. During each fiscal year, the state treasurer shall deposit
14 in the emergency reserve fund all general fund--state revenues in
15 excess of the state expenditure limit under chapter 43.135 RCW for that
16 fiscal year. Deposits shall be made at the end of each fiscal quarter
17 based on projections of state revenues and the state expenditure limit.
18 In addition to deposits under this section, the legislature may direct
19 other funds to be deposited in the emergency reserve fund. The
20 legislature may appropriate moneys from the emergency reserve fund only
21 with approval of at least two-thirds of the members of each house of

1 the legislature, and then only if the appropriation does not cause
2 total expenditures to exceed the state expenditure limit.

3 (3) The emergency reserve fund balance shall not exceed five
4 percent of biennial general fund--state revenues as projected by the
5 official state revenue forecast. Any balance in excess of five percent
6 shall be transferred on a quarterly basis by the state treasurer to the
7 education construction fund hereby created in the state treasury.
8 Funds may be appropriated from the education construction fund
9 exclusively for common school construction or higher education
10 construction. Funds may be appropriated for any other purpose only if
11 approved by a two-thirds vote of each house of the legislature and if
12 approved by a vote of the people at the next general election.

13 (4) A new fund or account funded directly from tax revenues may be
14 established by the legislature only if approved by a two-thirds vote of
15 each house of the legislature.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the secretary of state shall cause
17 notice of the foregoing constitutional amendment to be published as
18 provided by law.

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