
SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 8215

State of Washington 55th Legislature 1998 Regular Session

By Senators West, Brown, Morton, Spanel, Hochstatter, Winsley and Oke

Read first time 01/26/98. Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

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 7, section 2 of the Constitution of the state of Washington to
7 read as follows:

8 Article 7, section 2. LIMITATION ON LEVIES. Except as hereinafter
9 provided and notwithstanding any other provision of this Constitution,
10 the aggregate of all tax levies upon real and personal property by the
11 state and all taxing districts now existing or hereafter created, shall
12 not in any year exceed one per centum of the true and fair value of
13 such property in money: *Provided, however,* That nothing herein shall
14 prevent levies at the rates now provided by law by or for any port or
15 public utility district. The term "taxing district" for the purposes
16 of this section shall mean any political subdivision, municipal
17 corporation, district, or other governmental agency authorized by law
18 to levy, or have levied for it, ad valorem taxes on property, other
19 than a port or public utility district. Such aggregate limitation or
20 any specific limitation imposed by law in conformity therewith may be
21 exceeded only

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

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

1 amortization thereof by annual levies in excess of the tax limitation
2 provided for herein, *And provided further*, That the provisions of this
3 section shall also be subject to the limitations contained in Article
4 VIII, Section 6, of this Constitution;

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

10 (d) By a school district for the amount of school district taxes
11 that were refunded in the previous year due to valuation appeals.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the secretary of state shall cause
13 notice of this constitutional amendment to be published at least four
14 times during the four weeks next preceding the election in every legal
15 newspaper in the state.

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