
HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 4217

State of Washington

56th Legislature

2000 Regular Session

By Representatives Lambert, Thomas, DeBolt, Alexander, Campbell, B. Chandler, G. Chandler, Schoesler, Dunn, Pflug, Huff, Ericksen, Barlean, Carlson, Talcott, Fortunato, Esser, Woods and Boldt

Read first time 01/31/2000. Referred to Committee on Finance.

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 VII, section 1 of the Constitution of the state of Washington
7 to read as follows:

8 Article VII, section 1. The power of taxation shall never be
9 suspended, surrendered or contracted away. All taxes shall be uniform
10 upon the same class of property within the territorial limits of the
11 authority levying the tax and shall be levied and collected for public
12 purposes only. However, the legislature may provide that increases in
13 the assessed value of real property be phased in over a period of up to
14 six years, under conditions and restrictions provided by law. The word
15 "property" as used herein shall mean and include everything, whether
16 tangible or intangible, subject to ownership. All real estate shall
17 constitute one class: *Provided*, That the legislature may tax mines and
18 mineral resources and lands devoted to reforestation by either a yield
19 tax or an ad valorem tax at such rate as it may fix, or by both. Such
20 property as the legislature may by general laws provide shall be exempt
21 from taxation. Property of the United States and of the state,

1 counties, school districts and other municipal corporations, and
2 credits secured by property actually taxed in this state, not exceeding
3 in value the value of such property, shall be exempt from taxation.
4 The legislature shall have power, by appropriate legislation, to exempt
5 personal property to the amount of three thousand (\$3,000.00) dollars
6 for each head of a family liable to assessment and taxation under the
7 provisions of the laws of this state of which the individual is the
8 actual bona fide owner.

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

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