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**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 8407**

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**State of Washington**

**57th Legislature**

**2001 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Hochstatter, McCaslin and Swecker

Read first time 01/19/2001. Referred to Committee on State & Local Government.

1       WHEREAS, 65,843 people of King, Snohomish, and Whatcom counties  
2 acted, in good faith, in reliance upon Article XI, section 4 to  
3 exercise power reserved under Article I, section 1 as required by  
4 Article XI, section 3 of the Constitution of the state of  
5 Washington; and

6       WHEREAS, 65,843 people of King, Snohomish, and Whatcom counties  
7 delivered to the legislature of the state of Washington first  
8 amendment petitions withdrawing consent to governance by their  
9 respective parent counties on: April 23, 1995; January 31, 1996;  
10 February 28, 1996; March 6, 1996; September 16, 1996; October 31,  
11 1996; and November 4, 1996 respectively; and

12       WHEREAS, The chief clerk of the House of Representatives and  
13 the secretary of the senate transmitted the first amendment  
14 petitions to the secretary of state and provided for examination  
15 of the petitions; and

16       WHEREAS, The secretary of state delivered his "Report to the  
17 Senate and House of Representatives of the state of Washington on  
18 Petitions for the Formation of New Counties" on January 13, 1997;  
19 and

20       WHEREAS, The secretary's January 13, 1997, report evidences the

1 petitions conform to constitutionally mandated, legislatively  
2 established, and judicially affirmed standards for the creation of  
3 new counties; and

4 WHEREAS, 59,195 people, confirmed to have delivered their  
5 express political will to the legislature of the state of  
6 Washington, have a good faith belief that their respective parent  
7 counties are without the "just powers" needed to govern them; and

8 WHEREAS, The "just power" required by county governments to  
9 govern by consent has, to date, not been established by the  
10 legislature of the state of Washington; and

11 WHEREAS, Snohomish county plans a violent confrontation to  
12 thwart the political will of the people withdrawing consent from  
13 Snohomish county governance, which creates a dangerous and  
14 impossible situation adverse to the public peace, health, safety,  
15 or support of the state government and its existing public  
16 institutions; and

17 WHEREAS, The purpose of the state of Washington is to "protect  
18 and maintain individual rights" the right to consent being first  
19 among many; and

20 WHEREAS, The confusion arising from legislative omission with  
21 respect to these matters has resulted in no action with respect to  
22 the peoples' express political will; and

23 WHEREAS, The 12,659 people of the county of Freedom, confirmed  
24 to have delivered their express political will to the legislature  
25 of the state of Washington, have delivered a first amendment  
26 petition for redress of grievances to present evidence of certain  
27 unfinished business of the people;

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Senate of the state of  
29 Washington, the House of Representatives concurring, That the  
30 petition and evidence of the peoples' unfinished business be  
31 admitted into the record of both houses of the legislature and the  
32 contents thereof published in the Washington state register; and

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That each house shall take the evidence  
34 under advisement and as quickly and timely as is practicable  
35 finally and conclusively consider, resolve, and dispose of the  
36 peoples' unfinished business.

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