
HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 4217

State of Washington 58th Legislature 2004 Regular Session

By Representatives Orcutt, Simpson, G. and Linville

Read first time 01/26/2004. Referred to Committee on State Government.

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

8 Article XXVIII, section 1. Salaries for members of the
9 legislature, elected officials of the executive branch of state
10 government, and judges of the state's supreme court, court of appeals,
11 superior courts, and district courts shall be fixed by an independent
12 commission created and directed by law to that purpose. No state
13 official, public employee, or person required by law to register with
14 a state agency as a lobbyist, or immediate family member of the
15 official, employee, or lobbyist, may be a member of that commission.

16 As used in this section the phrase "immediate family" has the
17 meaning that is defined by law.

18 Any change of salary shall be filed with the secretary of state and
19 shall become law ninety days thereafter without action of the

1 legislature or governor, but shall be subject to referendum petition by
2 the people, filed within the ninety-day period. Referendum measures
3 under this section shall be submitted to the people at the next
4 following general election, and shall be otherwise governed by the
5 provisions of this Constitution generally applicable to referendum
6 measures. The salaries fixed pursuant to this section shall supersede
7 any other provision for the salaries of members of the legislature,
8 elected officials of the executive branch of state government, and
9 judges of the state's supreme court, court of appeals, superior courts,
10 and district courts. The salaries for such officials in effect on
11 January 12, 1987, shall remain in effect until changed pursuant to this
12 section.

13 Any increase in salary for legislators may be rejected by a
14 majority vote of the house of representatives and senate if, in the
15 last biennial budget, a majority of state employees, including
16 teachers, did not receive a salary increase by cost-of-living allowance
17 or otherwise. "Salary increase" does not include employer paid
18 benefits.

19 After the initial adoption of a law by the legislature creating the
20 independent commission, no amendment to such act which alters the
21 composition of the commission shall be valid unless the amendment is
22 enacted by a favorable vote of two-thirds of the members elected to
23 each house of the legislature and is subject to referendum petition.

24 The provisions of section 14 of Article IV, sections 14, 16, 17,
25 19, 20, 21, and 22 of Article III, and section 23 of Article II,
26 insofar as they are inconsistent herewith, are hereby superseded. The
27 provisions of section 1 of Article II relating to referendum
28 procedures, insofar as they are inconsistent herewith, are hereby
29 superseded with regard to the salaries governed by this section.

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

--- END ---