

---

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 4227

---

State of Washington                      59th Legislature                      2006 Regular Session

By Representative Holmquist

Read first time . Referred to .

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 IV of the Constitution of the state of Washington by adding a  
7 new section to read as follows:

8            Article IV, section . . . . . To secure and preserve the benefits  
9 of marriage for our society and for future generations of children,  
10 only the union between one man and one woman shall constitute marriage  
11 valid in or recognized by this state and its political subdivisions.  
12 Recognizing that marriage between persons other than a male and a  
13 female has never been authorized or recognized by law in this state,  
14 any marriage not otherwise considered valid by an act of the  
15 legislature or the people, is void and of no legal effect. This state  
16 and its political subdivisions shall not create or recognize a legal  
17 status for relationships of unmarried individuals, including any civil  
18 union, domestic partnership, or other similar relationship, that  
19 intends to or does approximate the design, qualities, significance, or

1 effect of marriage, or extends or confers the legal incidents thereof,  
2 including any marital, spousal, or familial right, benefit, privilege,  
3 advantage, immunity, or entitlement, or any equivalent thereof, that is  
4 authorized or recognized by law, or is paid for, directly or  
5 indirectly, in whole or in part, with public funds. Notwithstanding  
6 any other provision of this Constitution, no court established by this  
7 Constitution or by an act of the legislature shall have jurisdiction to  
8 hear or decide any claim that a relationship other than that prescribed  
9 by the legislature or the people as constituting lawful marriage is  
10 entitled to legal status that intends to or does approximate the  
11 design, qualities, significance, or effect of marriage, including any  
12 legal incident thereof, such as any marital, spousal, or familial  
13 right, benefit, privilege, advantage, immunity, or entitlement, or any  
14 equivalent thereof, that is authorized or recognized by law, or is paid  
15 for, directly or indirectly, in whole or in part, with public funds.  
16 Nothing in this provision prevents private parties from contracting  
17 between and among themselves for any right, benefit, privilege,  
18 advantage, immunity, or entitlement, or any equivalent thereof, that is  
19 not otherwise expressly prohibited by law. The provisions of this  
20 section shall supersede any other provision of this Constitution,  
21 including any conflicting provisions in Article I, Article IV, and  
22 Article XXXI of this Constitution.

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

--- END ---