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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 8209

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State of Washington                      59th Legislature                      2005 Regular Session

By Senators Swecker, Benton, Deccio, Mulliken, Roach, Stevens, Schmidt, Carrell, Zarelli, Honeyford, Hewitt, Morton, Esser, Benson, Delvin and Oke

Read first time 02/03/2005. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

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 the  
6 Constitution of the state of Washington by adding a new Article to read  
7 as follows:

8            Article ..., section .... **MARRIAGE.** Recognizing that marriage  
9 between persons other than a male and a female has never been  
10 authorized or recognized by law in this state, any marriage not  
11 otherwise considered valid by an act of the legislature or the people  
12 is void and of no legal effect. No court established by this  
13 Constitution or by an act of the legislature shall have jurisdiction to  
14 hear or determine any claim that a relationship other than that  
15 prescribed by the legislature or the people as constituting lawful  
16 marriage is entitled to legal status that intends to or does  
17 approximate the design, qualities, significance, or effect of marriage,  
18 or to the legal incidents thereof, including any marital, spousal, or

1 familial right, benefit, privilege, advantage, or entitlement, or any  
2 equivalent thereof, that is authorized or recognized by law, or is paid  
3 for, directly or indirectly, in whole or in part, with public funds.

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

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