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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4010

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State of Washington                      61st Legislature                      2009 Regular Session

By Representatives Condotta, Shea, Klippert, Kretz, and McCune

Read first time 01/30/09.      Referred to Committee on Financial Institutions & Insurance.

1            TO THE HONORABLE BARACK OBAMA, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND  
2 TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF  
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
4 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

5            We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of  
6 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully  
7 represent and petition as follows:

8            WHEREAS, There is an unprecedented need for Congress to pass  
9 legislation to help protect American citizens against potential,  
10 unprecedented losses in the value of take-home pay, retirement income,  
11 insurance policies, and investments due to the recent large-scale  
12 increases in the money supply by the Federal Reserve for the purpose of  
13 bailing out large corporations, loans to foreign central banks, etc.,  
14 by restoring gold and silver money in accordance with the Constitution,  
15 then phasing out the Federal Reserve System and its inflationary paper  
16 money, the Federal Reserve Note; and

17            WHEREAS, Our Founding Fathers were very familiar with the  
18 disastrous consequences, such as sharp price increases and the loss of  
19 wealth by most citizens, experienced by those colonies that had issued  
20 paper money not backed by gold or silver; and

1       WHEREAS, Our Founding Fathers were very careful to craft a  
2 Constitution that prohibits the issuance of paper money by either the  
3 federal government or the states by including such statements as "No  
4 state shall . . . make anything but gold and silver coin a tender in  
5 payment of debts . . . " (U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 10),  
6 and only empowering the federal government "To coin money, regulate the  
7 value thereof, and of foreign coin . . . " (U.S. Constitution, Article  
8 I, Section 8); and

9       WHEREAS, The U.S. Constitution designated the "dollar" as the  
10 standard of value (U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 9, Clause 1  
11 and the Bill of Rights, the Seventh Amendment), which was acknowledged  
12 in the federal Mint Act of 1792 to be a silver coin containing 371.25  
13 grains (troy) of pure silver; and

14       WHEREAS, Our national government's first experiment with an  
15 unbacked paper currency, the Civil War-era "greenback," led to the  
16 large-scale loss of wealth by U.S. citizens when they were paid with  
17 "greenbacks," which had only about half of the value of gold-backed  
18 notes; and

19       WHEREAS, The creation of the quasi-public, independent Federal  
20 Reserve System by Congress in 1913 has led to our current monetary  
21 system of a fiat paper currency, the "Federal Reserve Note," not backed  
22 with either gold or silver since 1971; and

23       WHEREAS, The Federal Reserve System created a 3,000% increase in  
24 the money supply (properly known as inflation) over the years 1959 to  
25 2006 which led to an 89% loss in the purchasing power of our "Federal  
26 Reserve Note" paper dollars (the classic effect of inflation) during  
27 the same time period; and

28       WHEREAS, The Federal Reserve System has been greatly increasing the  
29 money supply in recent years, and beginning with the financial crises  
30 of 2008, undertaking to create additional trillions of dollars out of  
31 thin air for bailouts with no end in sight, or as the New York Times  
32 for November 26, 2008, put it, "The Federal Reserve and the Treasury  
33 announced \$800 billion in new lending programs on Tuesday, sending a  
34 message that they would print as much money as needed to revive the  
35 nation's crippled banking system."; and

36       WHEREAS, As a result of these recent, large-scale increases in the  
37 money supply, we can expect unprecedented rounds of price increases and

1 economic dislocations in the future, leading to unprecedented losses of  
2 the value of take-home pay, retirement income, insurance policies, and  
3 investments by most citizens, and possibly ultimate economic chaos;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the  
5 Congress of the United States, and particularly, the legislative  
6 delegation to Congress of the State of Washington, use all of their  
7 efforts, energies, and diligence to protect all the citizens of this  
8 nation from potential, unprecedented losses in the value of take-home  
9 pay, retirement income, insurance policies, and investments as a result  
10 of the Federal Reserve's ongoing inflation of our unbacked paper money  
11 by passing legislation (such as H.R. 2756 to repeal our nation's legal  
12 tender laws, H.R. 4683 "The Free Competition in Currency Act of 2007,"  
13 and H.R. 5427 the "Tax-Free Gold Act of 2008") to help restore gold and  
14 silver money in accordance with the Constitution, then phasing out the  
15 Federal Reserve System and its inflationary paper money, the Federal  
16 Reserve Note (as in H.R. 2755).

17 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately  
18 transmitted to the Honorable Barack Obama, President of the United  
19 States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the  
20 House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of  
21 Washington.

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