
HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 4223

State of Washington 61st Legislature 2010 Regular Session

By Representatives Hinkle, Parker, Ross, Angel, Dammeier, Short, Shea, Crouse, Kelley, Lias, and Morrell

Read first time 01/29/10. Referred to Committee on State Government & Tribal Affairs.

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 If the economic and revenue forecast council's most recent
19 projection under section 12 of Article VIII for any fiscal year

1 determines that employment growth will be less than one percent, or if
2 a general state salary freeze is established in law for any fiscal
3 year, then in that fiscal year the commission may not adopt any salary
4 increase for legislators, any salary increases for legislators that
5 were previously approved by the commission may not take effect, and the
6 prior salaries shall remain in effect until the following fiscal
7 biennium.

8 Any change of salary shall be filed with the secretary of state and
9 shall become law ninety days thereafter without action of the
10 legislature or governor, but shall be subject to referendum petition by
11 the people, filed within the ninety-day period. Referendum measures
12 under this section shall be submitted to the people at the next
13 following general election, and shall be otherwise governed by the
14 provisions of this Constitution generally applicable to referendum
15 measures. The salaries fixed pursuant to this section shall supersede
16 any other provision for the salaries of members of the legislature,
17 elected officials of the executive branch of state government, and
18 judges of the state's supreme court, court of appeals, superior courts,
19 and district courts. The salaries for such officials in effect on
20 January 12, 1987, shall remain in effect until changed pursuant to this
21 section.

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

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29 insofar as they are inconsistent herewith, are hereby superseded.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

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

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