
SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 8200

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2011 Regular Session

By Senators Shin, Chase, Hargrove, Harper, Prentice, Rockefeller, Holmquist Newbry, Fraser, and Sheldon

Read first time 01/14/11. 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
6 Article IV, section 3(a) of the Constitution of the state of Washington
7 to read as follows:

8 **ARTICLE 4, SECTION 3A**

9 **SECTION 3(a) RETIREMENT OF SUPREME COURT AND SUPERIOR COURT JUDGES.**

10 A judge of the supreme court or the superior court shall retire from
11 judicial office either (1) at the end of the calendar year in which he
12 or she attains the age of seventy-five years; or (2) at the expiration
13 of his or her term of office after attaining the mandatory retirement
14 age. The legislature may, from time to time, fix a lesser age for
15 mandatory retirement, not earlier than the end of the calendar year in
16 which any such judge attains the age of seventy years, as the
17 legislature deems proper. This provision shall not affect the term to
18 which any such judge shall have been elected or appointed prior to, or

1 at the time of, approval and ratification of this provision.
2 Notwithstanding the limitations of this section, the legislature may by
3 general law authorize or require the retirement of judges for physical
4 or mental disability, or any cause rendering judges incapable of
5 performing their judicial duties.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this amendment is a single amendment
7 within the meaning of Article XXIII, section 1 of the state
8 Constitution.

9 The legislature finds that the changes contained in this amendment
10 constitute a single integrated plan permitting judges to complete their
11 term of office prior to retirement. If this amendment is held to be
12 separate amendments, it is void in its entirety and is of no further
13 force and effect.

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

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