
SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 8201

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2011 Regular Session

By Senators Stevens, Schoesler, Morton, and Honeyford

Read first time 01/14/11. Referred to Committee on Natural Resources & Marine Waters.

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 XXVI of the Constitution of the state of Washington to read as
7 follows:

8 **ARTICLE 26**

9 The following ordinance shall be irrevocable without the consent of
10 the United States and the people of this state:

11 **First.** That perfect toleration of religious sentiment shall be
12 secured and that no inhabitant of this state shall ever be molested in
13 person or property on account of his or her mode of religious worship.

14 **Second.** That the people inhabiting this state do agree and declare
15 that they forever disclaim all right and title to the ((unappropriated
16 public)) lands lying within the boundaries of this state((, and to all
17 lands lying within said limits)) owned or held by any Indian or Indian
18 tribes; ((and that until the title thereto shall have been extinguished

1 ~~by the United States, the same shall be and remain subject to the~~
2 ~~disposition of the United States,))~~ and said Indian lands shall remain
3 under the absolute jurisdiction and control of the congress of the
4 United States and that the lands belonging to citizens of the United
5 States residing without the limits of this state shall never be taxed
6 at a higher rate than the lands belonging to residents thereof; and
7 that no taxes shall be imposed by the state on lands or property
8 therein, belonging to or which may be hereafter purchased by the United
9 States or reserved for use: *Provided*, That nothing in this ordinance
10 shall preclude the state from taxing as other lands are taxed any lands
11 owned or held by any Indian who has severed his or her tribal
12 relations, and has obtained from the United States or from any person
13 a title thereto by patent or other grant, save and except such lands as
14 have been or may be granted to any Indian or Indians under any act of
15 congress containing a provision exempting the lands thus granted from
16 taxation, which exemption shall continue so long and to such an extent
17 as such act of congress may prescribe.

18 **Third.** The debts and liabilities of the Territory of Washington
19 and payment of the same are hereby assumed by this state.

20 **Fourth.** Provision shall be made for the establishment and
21 maintenance of systems of public schools free from sectarian control
22 which shall be open to all the children of said state.

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.

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