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**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 8201**

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**State of Washington**

**63rd Legislature**

**2013 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Ericksen, Holmquist Newbry, Roach, Sheldon, Benton, Bailey, Delvin, Padden, Hill, Becker, Honeyford, Braun, Pearson, Hewitt, and Dammeier

Read first time 01/16/13. Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

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 VII of the Constitution of the state of Washington by adding a  
7 new section to read as follows:

8 Article VII, section . . . (1) For the 2013-2015 fiscal biennium  
9 or any subsequent fiscal biennium, the legislature may not present to  
10 the governor for consideration, nor may the governor sign into law, an  
11 appropriations bill that would appropriate from the general fund for  
12 that fiscal biennium a total amount that, when combined with all  
13 appropriations from the general fund for that fiscal biennium made as  
14 of the date of the appropriation bill's passage and the amount of any  
15 general fund moneys to be transferred to the budget stabilization  
16 account pursuant to Article VII, section 12 of this Constitution,  
17 exceeds the prior fund balance and any general fund revenues for that  
18 fiscal biennium as estimated by the economic and revenue forecast

1 council or successor entity as of the date of the budget bill's  
2 passage.

3 (2) For the 2013-2015 fiscal biennium or any subsequent fiscal  
4 biennium, the legislature may not present to the governor for  
5 consideration, nor may the governor sign into law, an appropriations  
6 bill that would require for the subsequent fiscal biennium general fund  
7 appropriations necessary to maintain estimated program and service  
8 levels either funded in that appropriations bill or mandated by other  
9 state law, of a total amount that, when combined with all projected  
10 appropriations from the general fund for that fiscal biennium and the  
11 amount of any general fund moneys projected to be transferred to the  
12 budget stabilization account pursuant to Article VII, section 12 of  
13 this Constitution, exceeds prior fund balances and general fund  
14 revenues for that fiscal biennium as estimated by the economic and  
15 revenue forecast council or successor entity as of the date of the  
16 budget bill's passage.

17 (3) Subsections (1) and (2) of this section do not apply to an  
18 appropriations bill that makes net reductions in general fund  
19 appropriations and is enacted between July 1st and February 15th of any  
20 fiscal year.

21 (4) Subsections (1) and (2) of this section do not apply to an  
22 appropriations bill that is enacted by a favorable vote of three-fifths  
23 of the members of each house of the legislature.

24 (5) Subsection (2) of this section does not apply in a fiscal year  
25 in which money is withdrawn and appropriated from the budget  
26 stabilization account.

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

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