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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 8200

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State of Washington

68th Legislature

2023 Regular Session

By Senators Fortunato and J. Wilson

Prefiled 12/06/22. Read first time 01/09/23. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

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 II, section 40 of the Constitution of the state of Washington  
7 to read as follows:

8 Article II, section 40. (1) All fees collected by the State of  
9 Washington as license fees for motor vehicles and all excise taxes  
10 collected by the State of Washington on the sale, distribution or use  
11 of motor vehicle fuel and all other state revenue intended to be used  
12 for highway purposes, shall be paid into the state treasury and  
13 placed in a special fund to be used exclusively for highway purposes.  
14 Such highway purposes shall be construed to include the following:

15 (a) The necessary operating, engineering and legal expenses  
16 connected with the administration of public highways, county roads  
17 and city streets;

18 (b) The construction, reconstruction, maintenance, repair, and  
19 betterment of public highways, county roads, bridges and city  
20 streets; including the cost and expense of ~~((1))~~ (i) acquisition of  
21 rights-of-way, ~~((2))~~ (ii) installing, maintaining and operating  
22 traffic signs and signal lights, ~~((3))~~ (iii) policing by the state

1 of public highways, (~~(4)~~) (iv) operation of movable span bridges,  
2 (~~(5)~~) (v) operation of ferries which are a part of any public  
3 highway, county road, or city street;

4 (c) The payment or refunding of any obligation of the State of  
5 Washington, or any political subdivision thereof, for which any of  
6 the revenues described in section 1 may have been legally pledged  
7 prior to the effective date of this act;

8 (d) Refunds authorized by law for taxes paid on motor vehicle  
9 fuels;

10 (e) The cost of collection of any revenues described in this  
11 section(~~(f)~~).

12 (~~Provided, That~~) (2) (a) Except as provided otherwise in (b) of  
13 this subsection, this section shall not be construed to include  
14 revenue from general or special taxes or excises not levied primarily  
15 for highway purposes, or apply to vehicle operator's license fees or  
16 any excise tax imposed on motor vehicles or the use thereof in lieu  
17 of a property tax thereon, or fees for certificates of ownership of  
18 motor vehicles.

19 (b) Any state revenue collected from a road usage charge, vehicle  
20 miles traveled fee, or other similar type of comparable charge, must  
21 be used exclusively for highway purposes.

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

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