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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 8227

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State of Washington                      53rd Legislature                      1994 Regular Session

By Senators L. Smith, McDonald, Hochstatter and Anderson

Read first time 01/20/94.      Referred to Committee on Government Operations.

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 there  
4 shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the state for their  
5 approval and ratification, or rejection, an amendment to Article III of  
6 the Constitution of the state of Washington by repealing section 22  
7 thereof in its entirety to be effective July 1, 1995; and an amendment  
8 to Article III, sections 1, 3, 10, and 24 of the Constitution of the  
9 state of Washington to be effective July 1, 1995, to read as follows:

10           Article III, section 1. The executive department shall consist of  
11 a governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, treasurer,  
12 auditor, attorney general, (~~superintendent of public instruction,~~)  
13 and a commissioner of public lands, who shall be severally chosen by  
14 the qualified electors of the state at the same time and place of  
15 voting as for the members of the legislature.

16           Article III, section 3. The lieutenant governor, secretary of  
17 state, treasurer, auditor, attorney general, (~~superintendent of public  
18 instruction,~~) and commissioner of public lands, shall hold their  
19 offices for four years respectively, and until their successors are  
20 elected and qualified.

1 Article III, section 10. In case of the removal, resignation,  
2 death or disability of the governor, the duties of the office shall  
3 devolve upon the lieutenant governor; and in case of a vacancy in both  
4 the offices of governor and lieutenant governor, the duties of the  
5 governor shall devolve upon the secretary of state. In addition to the  
6 line of succession to the office and duties of governor as hereinabove  
7 indicated, if the necessity shall arise, in order to fill the vacancy  
8 in the office of governor, the following state officers shall succeed  
9 to the duties of governor and in the order named, viz.: Treasurer,  
10 auditor, attorney general, (~~superintendent of public instruction~~) and  
11 commissioner of public lands. In case of the death, disability,  
12 failure or refusal of the person regularly elected to the office of  
13 governor to qualify at the time provided by law, the duties of the  
14 office shall devolve upon the person regularly elected to and qualified  
15 for the office of lieutenant governor, who shall act as governor until  
16 the disability be removed, or a governor be elected; and in case of the  
17 death, disability, failure or refusal of both the governor and the  
18 lieutenant governor elect to qualify, the duties of the governor shall  
19 devolve upon the secretary of state; and in addition to the line of  
20 succession to the office and duties of governor as hereinabove  
21 indicated, if there shall be the failure or refusal of any officer  
22 named above to qualify, and if the necessity shall arise by reason  
23 thereof, then in that event in order to fill the vacancy in the office  
24 of governor, the following state officers shall succeed to the duties  
25 of governor in the order named, viz: Treasurer, auditor, attorney  
26 general, (~~superintendent of public instruction~~) and commissioner of  
27 public lands. Any person succeeding to the office of governor as in  
28 this section provided, shall perform the duties of such office only  
29 until the disability be removed, or a governor be elected and  
30 qualified; and if a vacancy occur more than thirty days before the next  
31 general election occurring within two years after the commencement of  
32 the term, a person shall be elected at such election to fill the office  
33 of governor for the remainder of the unexpired term.

34 Article III, section 24. The governor, secretary of state,  
35 treasurer, auditor, (~~superintendent of public instruction,~~)  
36 commissioner of public lands and attorney general shall severally keep  
37 the public records, books and papers relating to their respective  
38 offices, at the seat of government, at which place also the governor,  
39 secretary of state, treasurer and auditor shall reside.

1       BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the secretary of state shall cause  
2 notice of the foregoing constitutional amendment to be published at  
3 least four times during the four weeks next preceding the election in  
4 every legal newspaper in the state.

5       BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the foregoing amendment shall be  
6 construed as a single amendment within the meaning of Article XXIII,  
7 section 1 of the state Constitution.

8       The legislature finds that the changes contained in the foregoing  
9 amendment constitute a single integrated plan to abolish the office of  
10 the superintendent of public instruction. If the foregoing amendment  
11 is held to be separate amendments, this joint resolution shall be void  
12 in its entirety and shall be of no further force and effect.

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