
SUBSTITUTE SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 8202

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Haugen, Winsley, Drew, Sheldon and C. Anderson)

Read first time 03/06/95.

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 VII,
6 section 2 of the Constitution of the state of Washington to read as
7 follows:

8 Article VII, section 2. LIMITATION ON LEVIES. Except as
9 hereinafter provided and notwithstanding any other provision of this
10 Constitution, the aggregate of all tax levies upon real and personal
11 property by the state and all taxing districts now existing or
12 hereafter created, shall not in any year exceed one (~~per-centum~~)
13 percent of the true and fair value of such property in money:
14 *Provided, however,* That nothing herein shall prevent levies at the
15 rates now provided by law by or for any port or public utility
16 district. The term "taxing district" for the purposes of this section
17 shall mean any political subdivision, municipal corporation, district,
18 or other governmental agency authorized by law to levy, or have levied
19 for it, ad valorem taxes on property, other than a port or public
20 utility district. Such aggregate limitation or any specific limitation
21 imposed by law in conformity therewith may be exceeded only

1 (a) By any taxing district when specifically authorized so to do by
2 a majority of at least three-fifths of the (~~electors~~) voters thereof
3 voting on the proposition to levy such additional tax submitted not
4 more than twelve months prior to the date on which the proposed levy is
5 to be made and not oftener than twice in such twelve month period,
6 either at a special election or at the regular election of such taxing
7 district, at which election the number of (~~persons~~) voters voting
8 "yes" on the proposition shall constitute three-fifths of a number
9 equal to forty (~~per centum~~) percent of the total votes cast in such
10 taxing district at the last preceding general election when the number
11 of (~~electors~~) voters voting on the proposition does not exceed forty
12 (~~per centum~~) percent of the total votes cast in such taxing district
13 in the last preceding general election; or by a majority of at least
14 three-fifths of the (~~electors~~) voters thereof voting on the
15 proposition to levy when the number of (~~electors~~) voters voting on
16 the proposition exceeds forty (~~per centum~~) percent of the total votes
17 cast in such taxing district in the last preceding general election:
18 *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of this
19 Constitution, any proposition pursuant to this subsection to levy
20 additional tax for the support of the common schools may provide such
21 support for a two year period and any proposition to levy an additional
22 tax to support the construction, modernization, or remodelling of
23 school facilities may provide such support for a period not exceeding
24 six years;

25 (b) By any taxing district otherwise authorized by law to issue
26 general obligation bonds for capital purposes, for the sole purpose of
27 making the required payments of principal and interest on general
28 obligation bonds issued solely for capital purposes, other than the
29 replacement of equipment, when authorized so to do by majority of at
30 least three-fifths of the (~~electors~~) voters thereof voting on the
31 proposition to issue such bonds and to pay the principal and interest
32 thereon by an annual tax levy in excess of the limitation herein
33 provided during the term of such bonds, submitted not oftener than
34 twice in any calendar year, at an election held in the manner provided
35 by law for bond elections in such taxing district, at which election
36 the total number of (~~persons~~) voters voting on the proposition shall
37 constitute not less than forty (~~per centum~~) percent of the total
38 number of votes cast in such taxing district at the last preceding
39 general election: *Provided*, That any such taxing district shall have

1 the right by vote of its governing body to refund any general
2 obligation bonds of said district issued for capital purposes only, and
3 to provide for the interest thereon and amortization thereof by annual
4 levies in excess of the tax limitation provided for herein, *And*
5 *provided further*, That the provisions of this section shall also be
6 subject to the limitations contained in Article VIII, Section 6, of
7 this Constitution;

8 (c) By the state or any taxing district for the purpose of paying
9 the principal or interest on general obligation bonds outstanding on
10 December 6, 1934; or for the purpose of preventing the impairment of
11 the obligation of a contract when ordered so to do by a court of last
12 resort;

13 (d) By the state for the purpose of funding state fire protection
14 services in an amount not to exceed two cents per thousand dollars of
15 assessed value per year. The legislature shall exempt timberlands, but
16 not the structures thereon, from the fire protection levy if the
17 timberlands are subject to a monetary assessment for fire protection.

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

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