

2 **SJR 8212** - S AMD - 013

3 By Senators Benton, Stevens, Hochstatter, Roach, Zarelli and  
4 Johnson

5 NOT ADOPTED 1/19/00

6 On page 2, after line 6, insert the following:

7 Article VII, section 2. Except as hereinafter provided and  
8 notwithstanding any other provision of this Constitution, the aggregate  
9 of all tax levies upon real and personal property by the state and all  
10 taxing districts now existing or hereafter created, shall not in any  
11 year exceed one percent of the (~~true and~~) fair value of such property  
12 in money: *Provided, however,* That nothing herein shall prevent levies  
13 at the rates now provided by law by or for any port or public utility  
14 district. The term "taxing district" for the purposes of this section  
15 shall mean any political subdivision, municipal corporation, district,  
16 or other governmental agency authorized by law to levy, or have levied  
17 for it, ad valorem taxes on property, other than a port or public  
18 utility district. The term "fair value" means the assessed value of  
19 property on January 1, 1999, modified each year thereafter by the  
20 lesser of two percent or the rate of inflation. Such aggregate  
21 limitation or any specific limitation imposed by law in conformity  
22 therewith may be exceeded only as follows:

23 (a) By any taxing district when specifically authorized so to do by  
24 a majority of at least three-fifths of the voters of the taxing  
25 district voting on the proposition to levy such additional tax  
26 submitted not more than twelve months prior to the date on which the  
27 proposed levy is to be made and not oftener than twice in such twelve  
28 month period, either at a special election or at the regular election  
29 of such taxing district, at which election the number of voters voting  
30 "yes" on the proposition shall constitute three-fifths of a number  
31 equal to forty percent of the total number of voters voting in such  
32 taxing district at the last preceding general election when the number  
33 of voters voting on the proposition does not exceed forty percent of  
34 the total number of voters voting in such taxing district in the last  
35 preceding general election; or by a majority of at least three-fifths  
36 of the voters of the taxing district voting on the proposition to levy

1 when the number of voters voting on the proposition exceeds forty  
2 percent of the number of voters voting in such taxing district in the  
3 last preceding general election: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any  
4 other provision of this Constitution, any proposition pursuant to this  
5 subsection to levy additional tax for the support of the common schools  
6 may provide such support for a period of up to four years and any  
7 proposition to levy an additional tax to support the construction,  
8 modernization, or remodelling of school facilities may provide such  
9 support for a period not exceeding six years;

10 (b) By any taxing district otherwise authorized by law to issue  
11 general obligation bonds for capital purposes, for the sole purpose of  
12 making the required payments of principal and interest on general  
13 obligation bonds issued solely for capital purposes, other than the  
14 replacement of equipment, when authorized so to do by majority of at  
15 least three-fifths of the voters of the taxing district voting on the  
16 proposition to issue such bonds and to pay the principal and interest  
17 thereon by annual tax levies in excess of the limitation herein  
18 provided during the term of such bonds, submitted not oftener than  
19 twice in any calendar year, at an election held in the manner provided  
20 by law for bond elections in such taxing district, at which election  
21 the total number of voters voting on the proposition shall constitute  
22 not less than forty percent of the total number of voters voting in  
23 such taxing district at the last preceding general election: *Provided*,  
24 That any such taxing district shall have the right by vote of its  
25 governing body to refund any general obligation bonds of said district  
26 issued for capital purposes only, and to provide for the interest  
27 thereon and amortization thereof by annual levies in excess of the tax  
28 limitation provided for herein, *And provided further*, That the  
29 provisions of this section shall also be subject to the limitations  
30 contained in Article VIII, Section 6, of this Constitution;

31 (c) By the state or any taxing district for the purpose of  
32 preventing the impairment of the obligation of a contract when ordered  
33 so to do by a court of last resort.

34 Article VII, section 11. Nothing in this Article VII as amended  
35 shall prevent the legislature from providing, subject to such  
36 conditions as it may enact, that the (~~true and~~) fair value in money  
37 (a) of farms, agricultural lands, standing timber and timberlands, and  
38 (b) of other open space lands which are used for recreation or for  
39 enjoyment of their scenic or natural beauty shall be based on the use

1 to which such property is currently applied, and such values shall be  
2 used in computing the assessed valuation of such property in the same  
3 manner as the assessed valuation is computed for all property.-

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**EFFECT:** Caps valuation at 2% or the rate of inflation, whichever is less.