
HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 4206

State of Washington **61st Legislature** **2009 Regular Session**

By Representatives Orcutt, Anderson, Warnick, McCune, and Herrera

Read first time 02/09/09. Referred to Committee on Finance.

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, section 1 of the Constitution of the state of Washington
7 to read as follows:

8 Article VII, section 1. The power of taxation shall never be
9 suspended, surrendered or contracted away. All taxes shall be uniform
10 upon the same class of property within the territorial limits of the
11 authority levying the tax and shall be levied and collected for public
12 purposes only. The legislature may provide for the averaging of
13 assessed valuation increases under such conditions and restrictions as
14 it shall deem proper. The word "property" as used herein shall mean
15 and include everything, whether tangible or intangible, subject to
16 ownership. All real estate shall constitute one class: Provided, That
17 the legislature may tax mines and mineral resources and lands devoted
18 to reforestation by either a yield tax or an ad valorem tax at such
19 rate as it may fix, or by both. Such property as the legislature may

1 by general laws provide shall be exempt from taxation. Property of the
2 United States and of the state, counties, school districts and other
3 municipal corporations, and credits secured by property actually taxed
4 in this state, not exceeding in value the value of such property, shall
5 be exempt from taxation. The legislature shall have power, by
6 appropriate legislation, to exempt personal property to the amount of
7 fifteen thousand (\$15,000.00) dollars for each head of a family liable
8 to assessment and taxation under the provisions of the laws of this
9 state of which the individual is the actual bona fide owner.

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

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