
SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 8205

State of Washington 63rd Legislature 2013 Regular Session

By Senators Roach, Benton, Schoesler, Padden, Holmquist Newbry,
Carrell, Sheldon, Ericksen, Dammeier, and Smith

Read first time 01/18/13. Referred to Committee on Governmental
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 the
4 secretary of state must submit to the qualified voters of the state for
5 their approval and ratification, or rejection, an amendment to Article
6 II of the Constitution of the state of Washington by adding a new
7 section to read as follows:

8 Article II, section (1) Any action or combination of
9 actions by the legislature that raises taxes may be taken only if
10 approved by at least a two-thirds vote of both the house of
11 representatives and the senate. Pursuant to the referendum power set
12 forth in Article II, section 1(b) of this Constitution, tax increases
13 may be referred to the voters for their approval or rejection at an
14 election. For the purposes of this subsection, "raises taxes" means
15 any action or combination of actions by the state legislature that
16 increases state tax revenue deposited in any fund, budget, or account,
17 regardless of whether the revenues are deposited into the general fund.

18 (2)(a) Unless provided otherwise in this subsection, a fee may only

1 be imposed or increased in any fiscal year if it is legislatively
2 approved with at least a simple majority vote in both the house of
3 representatives and the senate.

4 (b) The requirement in (a) of this subsection does not apply to an
5 assessment made by: (i) An agricultural commodity commission; (ii) a
6 board created by state statute or created under a marketing agreement
7 or order under chapter 15.65 or 15.66 RCW; or (iii) the forest products
8 commission, if such assessment is approved by referendum in accordance
9 with the provisions of the statutes creating the commission or board or
10 in accordance with chapter 15.65 or 15.66 RCW.

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

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