

2 SSJR 8208 - H COMM AMD
3 By Committee on Local Government

4

5 On page 1, after line 2, strike the remainder of the resolution and
6 insert the following:

7 "THAT, At the next general election to be held in this state there
8 shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the state for their
9 approval and ratification, or rejection, an amendment to Article I,
10 section 11, of the Constitution of the state of Washington to read as
11 follows:

12 Article I, section 11. Absolute freedom of conscience in all
13 matters of religious sentiment, belief and worship, shall be guaranteed
14 to every individual, and no one shall be molested or disturbed in
15 person or property on account of religion; but the liberty of
16 conscience hereby secured shall not be so construed as to excuse acts
17 of licentiousness or justify practices inconsistent with the peace and
18 safety of the state. No public money or property shall be appropriated
19 for or applied to any religious worship, exercise or instruction, or
20 the support of any religious establishment: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That
21 this article shall not be so construed as to forbid the employment by
22 the state of a chaplain for such of the state custodial, correctional,
23 and mental institutions, or by a county's or public hospital district's
24 hospital, health facility, or hospice as in the discretion of the
25 legislature may seem justified. No religious qualification shall be
26 required for any public office or employment, nor shall any person be
27 incompetent as a witness or juror, in consequence of his or her opinion
28 on matters of religion, nor be questioned in any court of justice

1 touching his or her religious belief to affect the weight of his or her
2 testimony.

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