
HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 4209

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1991 Regular Session

By Representatives Winsley, Nelson, Ferguson, Franklin, Ballard, Mitchell, Dorn, Paris, Wilson, Nealey and Schmidt.

Read first time January 25, 1991. Referred to Committee on Local Government.

1 BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
2 THE 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. Except as hereinafter provided and
9 notwithstanding any other provision of this Constitution, the aggregate
10 of all tax levies upon real and personal property by the state and all
11 taxing districts now existing or hereafter created, shall not in any
12 year exceed one (~~per centum~~) percent of the true and fair value of
13 such property in money: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That nothing herein shall
14 prevent levies at the rates now provided by law by or for any port or
15 public utility district. The term "taxing district" for the purposes

1 of this section shall mean any political subdivision, municipal
2 corporation, district, or other governmental agency authorized by law
3 to levy, or have levied for it, ad valorem taxes on property, other
4 than a port or public utility district. Such aggregate limitation or
5 any specific limitation imposed by law in conformity therewith may be
6 exceeded only

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

1 construction, modernization, or remodelling of school facilities may
2 provide such support for a period not exceeding six years;

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

25 (c) By the state or any taxing district for the purpose of paying
26 the principal or interest on general obligation bonds outstanding on
27 December 6, 1934; or for the purpose of preventing the impairment of
28 the obligation of a contract when ordered so to do by a court of last
29 resort.

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