
HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 4233

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1992 Regular Session

By Representatives Rust, Prentice, Brekke, Valle, Fraser, G. Cole,
Leonard, Nelson and Anderson

Read first time 01/20/92. Referred to Committee on Revenue.

1 The Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Washington
2 resolve as follows:

3 The Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Washington
4 recognize that many Washington residents and businesses believe that
5 the current tax system is unfair and regressive. The purpose of this
6 constitutional amendment is to require that people of low, middle, and
7 high income pay, relative to their income, the same percentage of tax.
8 Voters should be given the opportunity to choose between the current
9 tax system and a tax system the burden of which is distributed fairly
10 across all levels of income.

11 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF
12 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON, IN LEGISLATIVE SESSION
13 ASSEMBLED:

14 THAT, At the next general election to be held in this state there
15 shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the state for their
16 approval and ratification, or rejection, an amendment to Article VII,

1 section ... of the Constitution of the state of Washington to read as
2 follows:

3 Article VII, section (1) The total effect of the state and
4 local tax system shall not be regressive. The tax system shall be
5 designed and administered to ensure that, taken as a whole, an
6 individual's tax burden relative to the individual's income is
7 proportionally commensurate with the next individual's tax burden.

8 (2) The legislature shall implement this section by providing tax
9 rates, schedules, exemptions, deferrals, deductions, and credits so
10 they the requirements of subsection (1) of this section are met. The
11 legislature may place requirements or conditions on state and local
12 political divisions as are necessary to ensure compliance with this
13 section.

14 (3) The department of revenue or its successor agency shall enforce
15 and administer the law to meet the requirements of subsection (1) of
16 this section.

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