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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 8203

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State of Washington                      58th Legislature                      2003 Regular Session

By Senators Stevens, Mulliken, Benton, Honeyford and Roach

Read first time 01/15/2003.      Referred to Committee on Land Use & Planning.

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. However, the legislature, through appropriate  
13 legislation, may reduce the value of real estate subject to taxation by  
14 amounts expended on mitigation fees, impact fees, or system improvement  
15 charges paid by the owner of the real estate. The word "property" as  
16 used herein shall mean and include everything, whether tangible or  
17 intangible, subject to ownership. All real estate shall constitute one  
18 class: *Provided*, That the legislature may tax mines and mineral  
19 resources and lands devoted to reforestation by either a yield tax or

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

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

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