

---

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 4223

---

State of Washington                      60th Legislature                      2007 Regular Session

By Representatives B. Sullivan and Rodne

Read first time . Referred to .

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 IV, section 3 of the Constitution of the state of Washington to  
7 read as follows:

8            Article IV, section 3. The judges of the supreme court shall be  
9 ((elected)) appointed by the ((qualified electors of the state at large  
10 at the general state election at the times and places at which state  
11 officers are elected, unless some other time be provided by the  
12 legislature. The first election of judges of the supreme court shall  
13 be at the election which shall be held upon the adoption of this  
14 Constitution and the judges elected thereat shall be classified by lot,  
15 so that two shall hold their office for the term of three years, two  
16 for the term of five years, and one for the term of seven years. The  
17 lot shall be drawn by the judges who shall for that purpose assemble at  
18 the seat of government, and they shall cause the result thereof to be  
19 certified to the secretary of state, and filed in his office)) governor

1 and be subject to a retention election as provided by law. The supreme  
2 court shall select a chief justice from its own membership to serve for  
3 a four-year term at the pleasure of a majority of the court as  
4 prescribed by supreme court rule. The chief justice shall preside at  
5 all sessions of the supreme court. In case of the absence of the chief  
6 justice, the majority of the remaining court shall select one of their  
7 members to serve as acting chief justice. ~~((After the first election))~~  
8 The terms of judges ((elected)) shall be six years from and after ((the  
9 second Monday in January next succeeding their election)) their  
10 appointment. If a vacancy occurs in the office of a judge of the  
11 supreme court the governor shall ~~((only))~~ appoint a person to ~~((ensure~~  
12 ~~the number of judges as specified by the legislature, to hold the~~  
13 ~~office until the election and qualification of a judge to fill the~~  
14 ~~vacancy, which election shall take place at the next succeeding general~~  
15 ~~election, and the judge so elected shall))~~ hold the office for the  
16 remainder of the unexpired term. ~~((The term of office of the judges of~~  
17 ~~the supreme court, first elected, shall commence as soon as the state~~  
18 ~~shall have been admitted into the Union, and continue for the term~~  
19 ~~herein provided, and until their successors are elected and~~  
20 ~~qualified.))~~ The sessions of the supreme court shall be held at the  
21 seat of government until otherwise provided by law.

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

--- END ---