
HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 4205

State of Washington

67th Legislature

2021 Regular Session

By Representatives Lekanoff, Simmons, Ryu, Pollet, Goodman, Ramel, Peterson, Sells, Senn, Dolan, Ormsby, Callan, Harris-Talley, and Riccelli

Read first time 02/08/21. Referred to Committee on Environment & Energy.

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 I of the Constitution of the state of Washington by adding a
7 new section to read as follows:

8 Article I, section . . . (1) The people of the state, including
9 future generations, have the right to a clean and healthy
10 environment, including pure water, clean air, healthy ecosystems, and
11 a stable climate, and to the preservation of the natural, cultural,
12 scenic, and healthful qualities of the environment.

13 (2) The state, including each branch, agency, and political
14 subdivision, shall serve as trustee of the natural resources of the
15 state, among them its waters, air, flora, fauna, climate, and public
16 lands. The state shall conserve, protect, and maintain these
17 resources for the benefit of all the people, including generations
18 yet to come.

19 (3) The rights stated in this section are inherent, inalienable,
20 and infeasible, are among those rights reserved to all the people,
21 and are on par with other protected inalienable rights. The state
22 shall equitably protect these rights for all people regardless of

1 their race, ethnicity, geography, or wealth, and shall act with
2 prudence, loyalty, impartiality, and equitable treatment of all
3 beneficiaries in fulfilling its trustee obligations. The provisions
4 of this section are self-executing.

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

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