SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 8202

State of Washington69th Legislature2025 Regular SessionBy Senators Fortunato and J. Wilson

Read first time 02/20/25. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

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 II, section 40 of the Constitution of the state of Washington 7 to read as follows:

8 Article II, section 40. (1) All fees collected by the State of 9 Washington as license fees for motor vehicles and all excise taxes 10 collected by the State of Washington on the sale, distribution or use 11 of motor vehicle fuel and all other state revenue intended to be used 12 for highway purposes, shall be paid into the state treasury and 13 placed in a special fund to be used exclusively for highway purposes. 14 Such highway purposes shall be construed to include the following:

15 (a) The necessary operating, engineering and legal expenses 16 connected with the administration of public highways, county roads 17 and city streets;

(b) The construction, reconstruction, maintenance, repair, and betterment of public highways, county roads, bridges and city streets; including the cost and expense of (((++))) (i) acquisition of rights-of-way, ((++)) (ii) installing, maintaining and operating traffic signs and signal lights, ((++)) (iii) policing by the state of public highways, (((4))) <u>(iv)</u> operation of movable span bridges, (((5))) <u>(v)</u> operation of ferries which are a part of any public highway, county road, or city street;

4 (c) The payment or refunding of any obligation of the State of 5 Washington, or any political subdivision thereof, for which any of 6 the revenues described in section 1 may have been legally pledged 7 prior to the effective date of this act;

8 (d) Refunds authorized by law for taxes paid on motor vehicle9 fuels;

10 (e) The cost of collection of any revenues described in this 11 section($(\div$)).

12 ((*Provided*, That)) (2)(a) Except as provided otherwise in (b) of 13 this subsection, this section shall not be construed to include 14 revenue from general or special taxes or excises not levied primarily 15 for highway purposes, or apply to vehicle operator's license fees or 16 any excise tax imposed on motor vehicles or the use thereof in lieu 17 of a property tax thereon, or fees for certificates of ownership of 18 motor vehicles.

19 (b) Any state revenue collected from a road usage charge, vehicle 20 miles traveled fee, or other similar type of comparable charge, must 21 be used exclusively for highway purposes.

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

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