
HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 4201

State of Washington 62nd Legislature 2011 Regular Session

By Representatives Alexander, Angel, Shea, and Dammeier

Read first time 01/12/11. Referred to Committee on State Government & Tribal Affairs.

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 XXVIII, section 1 of the Constitution of the state of
7 Washington to read as follows:

8 Article XXVIII, section 1. Salaries for members of the
9 legislature, elected officials of the executive branch of state
10 government, and judges of the state's supreme court, court of appeals,
11 superior courts, and district courts shall be fixed by an independent
12 commission created and directed by law to that purpose. No state
13 official, public employee, or person required by law to register with
14 a state agency as a lobbyist, or immediate family member of the
15 official, employee, or lobbyist, may be a member of that commission.

16 As used in this section the phrase "immediate family" has the
17 meaning that is defined by law.

18 Any change of salary shall be filed with the secretary of state and
19 shall become law ninety days thereafter without action of the

1 legislature or governor, but shall be subject to referendum petition by
2 the people, filed within the ninety-day period. Referendum measures
3 under this section shall be submitted to the people at the next
4 following general election, and shall be otherwise governed by the
5 provisions of this Constitution generally applicable to referendum
6 measures. The salaries fixed pursuant to this section shall supersede
7 any other provision for the salaries of members of the legislature,
8 elected officials of the executive branch of state government, and
9 judges of the state's supreme court, court of appeals, superior courts,
10 and district courts. The salaries for such officials in effect on
11 January 12, 1987, shall remain in effect until changed pursuant to this
12 section.

13 Whenever the omnibus operating appropriations act reflects a
14 general salary reduction for state employees, the commission shall
15 decrease salaries adopted pursuant to this section at a commensurate
16 rate and for the same period of time. This adjustment shall take
17 effect immediately upon the commission's action. Such salary
18 reductions are not subject to referendum measures.

19 After the initial adoption of a law by the legislature creating the
20 independent commission, no amendment to such act which alters the
21 composition of the commission shall be valid unless the amendment is
22 enacted by a favorable vote of two-thirds of the members elected to
23 each house of the legislature and is subject to referendum petition.

24 The provisions of sections 13 and 14 of Article IV, sections 14,
25 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, (~~and~~) 22, and 25 of Article III, and sections 23
26 and 25 of Article II, insofar as they are inconsistent herewith, are
27 hereby superseded. The provisions of section 1 of Article II relating
28 to referendum procedures, insofar as they are inconsistent herewith,
29 are hereby superseded with regard to the salaries governed by this
30 section.

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

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