
SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 8201

State of Washington 61st Legislature 2009 Regular Session

By Senator Rockefeller

Read first time 01/12/09. Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

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. The word "property" as used herein shall mean and
13 include everything, whether tangible or intangible, subject to
14 ownership. All real estate shall constitute one class: Provided, That
15 the legislature may tax mines and mineral resources and lands devoted
16 to reforestation by either a yield tax or an ad valorem tax at such
17 rate as it may fix, or by both. The legislature may provide a method
18 or methods of limiting increases in taxation of real estate, under
19 definitions, conditions, and restrictions deemed proper by the

1 legislature. Such property as the legislature may by general laws
2 provide shall be exempt from taxation. Property of the United States
3 and of the state, counties, school districts and other municipal
4 corporations, and credits secured by property actually taxed in this
5 state, not exceeding in value the value of such property, shall be
6 exempt from taxation. The legislature shall have power, by appropriate
7 legislation, to exempt personal property to the amount of fifteen
8 thousand (\$15,000.00) dollars for each head of a family liable to
9 assessment and taxation under the provisions of the laws of this state
10 of which the individual is the actual bona fide owner.

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

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