
HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 4212

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2020 Regular Session

By Representatives Sullivan, Springer, Stokesbary, Senn, Slatter, Sells, Boehnke, and Goehner

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

8 Article VII, section . . . Notwithstanding any provision of this
9 Constitution, the legislature may by general law authorize the
10 legislative authority of any county, city, town, or port district to
11 designate boundaries within its jurisdiction containing only that
12 property which that legislative authority determines will be
13 increased in value by reason of public improvements within those
14 designated boundaries, and may provide that all or a portion of
15 regular or special ad valorem taxes levied within those boundaries
16 against the value of property may be used to pay for the specified
17 public improvements or to pay obligations issued or incurred to fund
18 the specified public improvements. The levying, collection,
19 allocation, or use of all or a portion of regular or special ad
20 valorem taxes within those boundaries to provide for the specified
21 public improvements or obligations issued or incurred therefor does
22 not constitute a lack of uniformity of taxation on a class of
23 property under section 1 of this article, but special ad valorem

1 taxes must be uniform upon the same class of property within the
2 designated boundaries. Special ad valorem taxes levied within those
3 boundaries are not subject to the limitations imposed by section 2 of
4 this article, and the rate of special taxation is not included in the
5 computation of the aggregate of all taxes levied by any taxing
6 district upon property within those boundaries for purposes of
7 section 2 of this article. The allocation and use of all or a portion
8 of regular or special ad valorem taxes levied and collected within
9 those boundaries to provide for specified public improvements or
10 obligations issued or incurred therefor does not violate the
11 requirements of Article IX, section 2 of this Constitution. A pledge
12 of special ad valorem tax revenues or apportioned regular ad valorem
13 tax revenues from within those boundaries to secure obligations
14 issued or incurred for the specified public improvements does not
15 cause those obligations to constitute "debt" or "indebtedness" of the
16 state, a county, city, town, school district, or other municipal
17 corporation under Article VIII of this Constitution. Regular ad
18 valorem tax revenues of the state apportioned pursuant to this
19 section are not included as "general state revenues" under Article
20 VIII, section 1(c) of this Constitution and are not subject to
21 appropriation under Article VIII, section 4 of this Constitution.

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
25 legal newspaper in the state.

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