
SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 8219

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2020 Regular Session

By Senators Fortunato, Padden, Ericksen, Zeiger, Braun, O'Ban, Sheldon, Warnick, Honeyford, Walsh, Short, Rivers, Wilson, L., and Holy

Read first time 03/06/20. 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
12 public purposes only. The word "property" as used herein shall mean
13 and include everything, whether tangible or intangible, subject to
14 ownership. (~~All real estate shall constitute one class: Provided,~~
15 ~~That the legislature may tax mines and mineral resources and lands~~
16 ~~devoted to reforestation by either a yield tax or an ad valorem tax~~
17 ~~at such rate as it may fix, or by both)) For taxes levied for
18 collection in 2022 and thereafter, the assessed value of residential
19 property shall not exceed the true and fair value of the property on
20 January 1, 2020, or January 1st of the year in which there is a
21 change in ownership, plus the true and fair value of new construction
22 and improvements to property after this date. Such property as the~~

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

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