

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE STATE CONSTITUTION

Part I—Compensation of Elected Officials

TO BE VOTED UPON NOVEMBER 4, 1958

—OFFICIAL BALLOT TITLE—

SUBSTITUTE SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 9

PART I

COMPENSATION OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

Shall the state constitution be amended to provide that the legislature may increase or decrease the compensation of all elected officials of the state and all elected officials of the counties and that any such change in compensation shall be effective immediately; subject to the people's power of referendum?

Be It Resolved. By the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Washington in legislative session assembled:

THAT, At the general election to be held in this state on the Tuesday next succeeding the first Monday in November, 1958, there shall be submitted to the qualified voters of this state, for their approval and ratification, or rejection, an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Washington, by striking from Article II all of section 13, and by striking from Article XXVIII all of section 1, and inserting in lieu of Article XXVIII, section 1, as section 1, the following, so that the same shall read as follows:

Article XXVIII, Section 1. Compensation of all elected officials of the state and of the county officials shall be fixed by the legislature, and such compensation

may in all cases go into effect immediately, subject only to the limitations of Article II, section 41 of this Constitution. The provisions of section 25 of Article II, of section 25 of Article III, of section 13 of Article IV and of section 8 of Article XI, insofar as they are inconsistent herewith, are hereby repealed.

Be It Further Resolved, That the Secretary of State shall cause the foregoing constitutional amendment to be published for at least three months preceding the election in a weekly newspaper in every county where a newspaper is published in the state.

Passed the Senate March 14, 1957.

JOHN A. CHERBERG,
President of the Senate.

Passed the House March 14, 1957.

JOHN L. O'BRIEN,
Speaker of the House.

STATE OF WASHINGTON—ss.

Filed in the office of the Secretary of State March 14, 1957.

VICTOR A. MEYERS, *Secretary of State.*

Argument FOR Part I of Sub. S. J. R. No. 9
THIS AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION
IS IMPORTANT!

It merits the serious study and discussion of all citizens to permit intelligent voting at the polls. ARE YOU AWARE that this amendment:

- (1) *does NOT ask for any increase in salaries!*
- (2) *does NOT attempt in any way to fix salaries!*
- (3) *does NOT change the power of the legislature to determine salaries!*
- (4) *does NOT alter the voters' right to veto salary changes by referendum!*

The proposed amendment **DOES** permit the legislature to adjust the salaries of county and state officials, either up or down, at any time during their term of office, as may be warranted by changing economic conditions. For example, as many as three different salary levels have existed at the same time for Supreme Court Judges doing the same work, on the same Court. There is no private business in the country where such a condition would be permitted to exist.

If our national economy should take a turn from inflation to deflation, our Constitution as it now exists would prevent the State from adjusting salaries downward for a period of several years. While the *need* for salary adjustment may be immediate, the *remedy* may be years away!

Such a time lag is manifestly unfair both to the taxpayer and to our public officials.

Frequently new officials receive more than seasoned veterans. The proposed Constitutional Amendment (Part I of Substitute Senate Joint Resolution No. 9) will eliminate the inequities which are bred by the present system.

Passage of the amendment means equal pay for equal work.

Following are a few of the prominent citizens, interested in good government, who urge your vote FOR this amendment:

John L. King	Seattle	George N. Stevens	Seattle
E. M. (Ed) Weston	Seattle	Joe K. Alderson	Yakima
George W. Martin	Seattle	Smithmore Meyers	Spokane
Harold S. Sheffelman	Seattle	Joseph Drumheller	Spokane
Muriel Mawer	Seattle	Fred C. Palmer	Yakima

COMMITTEE for Part I of SUBSTITUTE SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION #9
Reno Odlin, Chairman, Puget Sound National Bank Bldg., Tacoma, Wash.

STATE OF WASHINGTON—ss.

Filed in the office of the Secretary of State July 1, 1958.

VICTOR A. MEYERS, *Secretary of State.*