

# HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 13

Proposed Constitutional Amendment

Official ballot title:\*

## AUTHORIZING COMPENSATION INCREASE DURING TERM

Shall the State Constitution be amended by adding a new article permitting the compensation of all elected and appointed state, county and municipal officers who do not fix their own compensation (including judges of courts of record and justice courts), to be increased during their terms of office to the end that such officials shall receive compensation for their services as provided by the law in effect at the time the services are being rendered?

Vote cast by members of the 1967 Legislature on final passage:  
HOUSE: (99 members) Yeas, 89; Nays, 8; Absent or not voting, 2.  
SENATE: (49 members) Yeas, 40; Nays, 6; Absent or not voting, 3.

\*Ballot Title as issued by the Attorney General.

## Statement **FOR**

HJR 13 is a resolution passed by the 1967 State Legislature designed to modernize the State Constitution. It provides that all elective and appointive state, county and municipal officers and officials, including judges, *who do not set their own salaries*, may receive salary increases during their terms of office.

### Vote "Yes" because:

1. Under the present law, many newly elected and appointed officials and judges receive a salary greater than their colleagues with longer tenure. A current example of this outdated law finds that four new Superior Court judges receive 50% more compensation than 74 other judges, all of whom have served for a longer period of time. If we place our government officers and officials in a position of equal responsibility, it is only fair that we compensate them equally.

2. Today, public officers, officials and judges are prohibited from having their salaries increased while serving their current terms of office. Some must wait as long as six years for their authorized raises. This hurts good government. With the increasing cost of living, an extreme economic hardship is placed on many of these public servants. Would you as a wage-earner be satisfied to wait as long as six years for your pay raise—one that was already being received by your co-workers?

3. A "YES" vote for HJR 13 will correct these unfair and discriminatory conditions. It will NOT, however, allow uncontrolled salary increases, since HJR 13 pertains only to state, county and municipal officials *who do not set their own salaries*. STATE LEGISLATORS, THEREFORE, COULD NOT RAISE THEIR OWN SALARIES DURING A CURRENT TERM OF OFFICE.

*Statewide Steering Committee:* WILLIAM M. ALLEN, Board Chairman, The Boeing Co.; THOMAS GOSE, President, State Bar Association; FATHER JOHN A. FITTERER, S.J., President, Seattle University; GOODWIN CHASE, Tacoma Banker; ROBERT KULL, Chairman, Democratic State Central Committee; C. MONTGOMERY JOHNSON, Chairman, Republican State Central Committee.

*Committee appointed to compose the statement FOR House Joint Resolution No. 13:*

WILLIAM (BILL) CHATALAS, State Representative; PERRY WOODALL, State Senator; ROBERT TWIGG, State Senator.

*Advisory Committee:* EDWIN PRATT, Seattle Civic Leader; HOWARD GRIMM, International Director, Lions International; LUKE WILLIAMS, Spokane Civic Leader; WILLIAM KENTON, State Commander, American Legion.

*Explanatory comment issued by the  
Attorney General as required by law*

### **The Law as it now exists:**

Under the constitution the compensation of elective and appointive state, county and municipal officers, including judges of courts of record and justice courts, is fixed by the state legislature or some officer or public body to whom the legislature has delegated such authority.

In the case of such officers who serve for a fixed term (which, depending upon the law governing the particular office, will be from four to as many as nine years in length) there are several provisions in the present constitution which prohibit increases in their compensation during their respective terms of office. These constitutional provisions apply to officers serving for staggered terms on multi-member boards, commissions and tribunals as well as to other officers serving fixed terms.

### **Effect of House Joint Resolution No. 13 if approved into Law:**

The proposed constitutional amendment would add a new Article to the constitution which would provide that the compensation of those officers named above, who do not fix their own compensation, may be increased during their term of office to the end that such officers shall receive compensation for their services in accordance with the law in effect at the time the services are being rendered.

*Note: Complete text of House Joint Resolution No. 13 starts  
on Page 51.*

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## **Statement AGAINST**

Before any constitutional amendment can be submitted to the voters for decision, our state constitution requires that the proposal must first be approved by at least two-thirds of the members of each branch of the state legislature.

House Joint Resolution No. 13 was so approved by the 1967 Legislature and no member could be enlisted to write a statement against the measure for publication in this pamphlet.

district and the same political party as the legislator or partisan county elective officer whose office has been vacated, and shall be one of three persons who shall be nominated by the county central committee of that party, and in case a majority of said county commissioners do not agree upon the appointment within sixty days after the vacancy occurs, the governor shall within thirty days thereafter, and from the list of nominees provided for herein, appoint a person who shall be from the same legislative district, county or county commissioner district and of the same political party as the legislator or partisan county elective officer whose office has been vacated, and the person so appointed shall hold office until his successor is elected at the next general election, and shall have qualified: *Provided*, That in case of a vacancy occurring in the office of joint senator, or joint representative, the vacancy shall be filled from a list of three nominees selected by the state central committee, by appointment by the joint action of the boards of county commissioners of the counties composing the joint senatorial or joint representative district, the person appointed to fill the vacancy must be from the same legislative district and of the same political party as the legislator whose office has been vacated, and in case a majority of said county commissioners do not agree upon the appointment within sixty days after the vacancy occurs, the governor shall within thirty days thereafter, and from the list of nominees provided for herein, appoint a person who shall be from the same legislative district and of the same political party as the legislator whose office has been vacated.

Article XI, section 6. The board of county commissioners in each county shall fill all vacancies occurring in any [~~county,~~] township, precinct or road district office of such county by appointment, and officers thus appointed shall hold office till the next general election, and until their successors are elected and qualified.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the secretary of state shall cause the foregoing constitutional amendments to be published at least four times during the four weeks next preceding the election in every legal newspaper in the state.

Passed the Senate March 17, 1967. Passed the House April 18, 1967.  
JOHN A. CHERBERG, DON ELDRIDGE,  
President of the Senate. Speaker of the House.  
EXPLANATORY COMMENT S.J.R. NO. 24:

All words in double parentheses and lined through are in our State Constitution at the present and are being taken out by this amendment. All words underscored do not appear in the State Constitution as it is now written but will be put in if this amendment is adopted.

COMPLETE TEXT OF

Proposed  
Constitutional Amendment

**HOUSE JOINT  
RESOLUTION**

**1**

Ballot Title as issued by the Attorney General:

**TAXATION BASED ON ACTUAL USE**

Shall Article VII of the State Constitution be amended by adding a section authorizing the legislature to provide that farms, agricultural lands, standing timber and timberlands, and other open space lands used for recreation or enjoyment of their scenic or natural beauty, shall be valued for purposes of taxation on the basis of the use to which such property currently is being applied, rather than on the highest and best use?

BE IT RESOLVED, *By the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Washington, in Legislative Session Assembled:*

THAT, At the next general election there shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the state for their approval and ratification, or rejection, an amendment to Article VII of the Constitution of the State of Washington by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

NEW SECTION. Article VII, section 11. Nothing in this Article VII as amended shall prevent the legislature from providing, subject to such conditions as it may enact, that the true and fair value in money (a) of farms, agricultural lands, standing timber and timberlands, and (b) of other open space lands which are used for recreation or for enjoyment of their scenic or natural beauty shall be based on the use to which such property is currently applied, and such values shall be used in computing the assessed valuation of such property in the same manner as the assessed valuation is computed for all property.

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

Passed the House March 14, 1967. Passed the Senate April 28, 1967.  
DON ELDRIDGE, JOHN A. CHERBERG,  
Speaker of the House. President of the Senate.

EXPLANATORY COMMENT H.J.R. NO. 1:  
All words underscored do not appear in the Constitution as it is now written but will be put in if this amendment is adopted.

COMPLETE TEXT OF

Proposed  
Constitutional Amendment

**HOUSE JOINT  
RESOLUTION**

**13**

Ballot Title as issued by the Attorney General:

**AUTHORIZING COMPENSATION  
INCREASE DURING TERM**

Shall the State Constitution be amended by adding a new article permitting the compensation of all elected and appointed state,

county and municipal officers who do not fix their own compensation (including judges of courts of record and justice courts), to be increased during their terms of office to the end that such officials shall receive compensation for their services as provided by the law in effect at the time the services are being rendered?

BE IT RESOLVED, *By the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Washington, in Legislative Session Assembled:*

THAT, At the next general election to be held in this state, there shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the state for their approval and ratification, or rejection, an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Washington, by adding thereto Article XXIX, and section 1 thereof, which shall read as follows:

NEW SECTION. Article XXIX, section 1. The compensation of all elective and appointive state, county, and municipal officers who do not fix their own compensation, including judges of courts of record and the justice courts may be increased during their terms of office to the end that such officers and judges shall each severally receive compensation for their services in accordance with the law in effect at the time the services are being rendered.

The provisions of section 25 of Article II (Amendment 35), section 25 of Article III (Amendment 31), section 13 of Article IV, section 8 of Article XI, and section 1 of Article XXVIII (Amendment 20) insofar as they are inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the foregoing amendment shall be construed as a separate amendment within the meaning of Article XXIII, section 1 (Amendment 37) of this Constitution.

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

Passed the House February 8, 1967.      Passed the Senate March 6, 1967.  
DON ELDRIDGE,                              JOHN A. CHERBERG,  
Speaker of the House.                      President of the Senate.

EXPLANATORY COMMENT H.J.R. NO. 13:

All words underscored do not appear in the Constitution as it is now written but will be put in if this amendment is adopted.