



HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 42

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

NOTE: The ballot title and explanatory statement were written by the Attorney General as required by state law. The complete text of House Joint Resolution 42 begins on page 13.

Vote cast by the 1985 Legislature on final passage:
HOUSE: Yeas, 97; Nays, 0; Absent or not voting, 1.
SENATE: Yeas, 46; Nays, 2; Absent or not voting, 1.

Official Ballot Title:

Shall agricultural commodity commissions, funded by agricultural producer assessments, be permitted to engage in promotional hosting to develop agricultural trade?

The law as it now exists:

The present state constitutional provisions prohibit the expenditure of public money for non-public purposes. The State Supreme Court's interpretation of these provisions prohibits the expenditure of public funds for promotional hosting as a means of trade promotion. Promotional hosting

is generally understood to mean a hosting of individuals and groups of individuals at meals, gatherings, and gifts for the purpose of cultivating trade relations and promoting sales of a product or service.

There are a number of agricultural commodity commissions in the State of Washington. The commissions' operating funds are from agricultural commodity assessments paid by the growers or producers of agricultural products. Those assessments are public funds, and thus cannot be expended for promotional hosting.

The effect of HJR 42, if approved into law:

This constitutional amendment would, if approved, permit agricultural commodity commissions to use agricultural commodity assessments, paid by growers and producers, for trade promotion and promotional hosting in such manner as the legislature may specify.

Statement for

HJR 42 WILL HELP WASHINGTON AGRICULTURE

Businesses and trade commissions throughout the world regularly use promotional hosting as a marketing tool. On site tours and educational events are often necessary to develop business opportunities. Washington's agriculture commodity commissions raise funds *exclusively through farmer assessments*, but a technicality in the state's Constitution now prohibits promotional hosting. HJR 42 will provide Washington farmers the same promotional opportunities which have been available to farmers in other states for years.

HJR 42 WILL NOT COST THE TAXPAYER

Washington's 17 agriculture commodity commissions are devoted to helping farmers market their products. Collectively, agriculture represents the state's largest industry with \$3.2 billion in annual sales. Although the commissions are funded *exclusively* by assessments on agriculture, financial activities are restricted by the state. A yes vote on HJR 42 will free funds for promotional hosting.

Currently, there are no known groups opposed to HJR 42. In fact, a constitutional amendment allowing promotional hosting by Washington port districts was overwhelmingly passed by the voters in 1965 and this year Washington lawmakers supported HJR 42 almost unanimously: 97-0 in the House and 46-2 in the Senate.

HJR 42 WILL BOOST WASHINGTON'S ENTIRE ECONOMY

A yes vote on HJR 42 will allow agriculture commodity groups to promote Washington-grown products more ef-

fectively, thus increasing export and domestic sales. It will allow Washington farmers to compete equally with producers in other states and countries. Most important, increased agricultural trade will strengthen our entire economy. For a growing Washington, vote yes on HJR 42.



Voters' Pamphlet Statement Prepared by:

FRANK "TUB" HANSEN, State Senator; DAN McDONALD, State Senator; FORREST BAUGHER, State Representative.

Advisory Committee: DON AHRENHOLTZ, Executive Vice President, Washington State Farm Bureau; GEORGE DUFF, President, Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce; DAN BERTRAND, Vice President, Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO; LEWIS HOLCOMB, Executive Director, Washington Public Ports Association; RAY HILL, Master, Washington State Grange.

Statement against

State law requires that the argument and rebuttal statement against a constitutional amendment be written by one or more members of the state Legislature who voted against that proposed measure on final passage or, in the event that no such member of the Legislature consents to prepare the statement, by any other responsible individual or individuals to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President of the State Senate, and the Secretary of State. No legislator who voted against House Joint Resolution 42 or other individual opposing the measure consented to write an argument against the measure for publication in this pamphlet.

“yes”: PROVIDED FURTHER, That any such taxing district shall have the right by vote of its governing body to refund any general obligation bonds of said district issued for capital purposes only, and to provide for the interest thereon and amortization thereof by annual levies in excess of the tax limitation provided for herein, AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That the provisions of this section shall also be subject to the limitations contained in Article VIII, Section 6, of this Constitution;

(c) By the state or any taxing district for the purpose of paying the principal or interest on general obligation bonds outstanding on December 6, 1934; or for the purpose of preventing the impairment of the obligation of a contract when ordered so to do by a court of last resort.

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.

or any part of the full faith and credit of the sponsor or any other state or local government, or any tax revenues other than tax allocation revenues, and shall not be considered a debt of the sponsor or other state or local government for general indebtedness limitation purposes.

For the purposes of the section, “property taxes” means:

(1) Property taxes subject to the aggregate limitation on tax levies by the state and all taxing districts in section 2 of this Article; and

(2) Property taxes levied by port districts and public utility districts, except for property taxes levied specifically for the purpose of making required payments of principal and interest on general indebtedness.

For purposes of this section, “public improvements” means capital projects that benefit the public at large and do not discriminate against any citizen on the basis of race, national origin, color, sex, age, economic status, or the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical handicap.

Nothing in this section authorizes the provision of public improvements which counties, cities, and towns may not otherwise provide.

Nothing in this section authorizes a county, city, or town to exercise powers of eminent domain contrary to the provisions of Article I, section 16.

Nothing in this section authorizes a county, city, or town to pledge all or part of its full faith and credit without complying with the laws relating to the incurring of general indebtedness, including Article VIII, section 1 and Article VIII, section 6, or to aggregate tax levies in excess of the limitation on levies in section 2 of this Article.

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.



COMPLETE TEXT OF House Joint Resolution 23

The following constitutional amendment is being proposed as a new section to be added to Article VII of the state Constitution.

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 Article VII of the state Constitution by adding a new section to read as follows:

Article VII, section Notwithstanding any provision of this Constitution, the legislature may by general law for the purpose of permitting special financing of public improvements authorize the legislative authority of any county, city, or town to create boundaries, within its jurisdiction, after such legislative authority conducts a public hearing, containing only that real property which the legislative authority determines will be increased in true and fair value by reason of specified public improvements within those boundaries. The legislature may further provide that all or a portion of the property taxes levied within those boundaries against increases in the true and fair value of such real property may be used to pay for the specified public improvements or to pay public obligations incurred to fund the specified public improvements. Any such public obligations payable solely from revenues from these public improvements, including such property taxes levied against the increases in real property value and other available non tax money shall not be the general obligation of or guaranteed by all



COMPLETE TEXT OF House Joint Resolution 42

The following constitutional amendment is being proposed as a new section to be added to Article VIII of the state Constitution.

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 Article VIII of the Constitution of the

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

Article VIII, section The use of agricultural commodity assessments by agricultural commodity commissions in such manner as may be prescribed by the legislature for agricultural development or trade promotion and promotional hosting shall be deemed a public use for a public purpose, and shall not be deemed a gift within the provisions of section 5 of this article.

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.

