



# SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 8210

## PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

**Note:** The ballot title and explanatory statement were written by the Attorney General as required by law. The complete text of Senate Joint Resolution 8210 begins on page 15.

**Vote cast by the 1989 Legislature on final passage:**

HOUSE: Yeas, 97; Nays, 0; Absent or not voting, 1.

SENATE: Yeas, 46; Nays, 1; Absent or not voting, 2.

### Statement for

#### **SJR 8210 ENCOURAGES THE EFFICIENT USE OF WATER -- SAVES RATEPAYERS MONEY AND PRESERVES THE ENVIRONMENT**

Reducing water demand will defer the necessity to construct additional costly water supply facilities to meet the needs of an increasing population.

Fish and wildlife resources and other environmental values can be better protected and preserved by reducing water consumption.

The effect of future droughts can be lessened by preserving precious water resources.

The efficient use of water can reduce sewage flows and thereby postpone the need for expensive enlargement of wastewater treatment facilities.

Using less water can reduce pumping and treatment costs.

Using more efficient plumbing fixtures can lower customers' hot water use and lessen their future energy bills.

#### **SJR 8210 ESTABLISHES A WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM PATTERNED AFTER THE SUCCESSFUL ENERGY CONSERVATION PROGRAM**

State voters gave overwhelming approval in 1988 to renew the energy conservation program administered by public utilities. This water conservation program is patterned after the very successful energy conservation program and allows utilities to fund cost-effective conservation opportunities that exist in homes, commercial businesses and industries.

### Official Ballot Title:

Shall the State Constitution permit local governments to finance, from the revenues of water sales, private efforts to conserve water?

### The law as it now exists:

The Washington Constitution prohibits local governments from providing or loaning public money or credit to private persons other than the poor and infirm. However, an amendment to the Constitution permits local governments,

The program is voluntary, relying on sound economic incentives and a positive conservation ethic that will help to control costs to the utility and the ratepayer.

Conservation efforts can create an additional supply of water more quickly than building new water supply facilities.

#### **SJR 8210 MAINTAINS THE FINANCIAL PROTECTION OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INTERESTS**

SJR 8210 carefully limits conservation loan programs to the purchase and installation of cost-effective conserving plumbing fixtures, systems, and equipment.

No tax dollars are involved. Only funds from the sale of water can be used for conservation loans.

**Voters Pamphlet Statement Prepared by:**

SCOTT BARR, State Senator; PHIL TALMADGE, State Senator; JENNIFER BELCHER, State Representative.

Advisory Committee: WANDA HAAS, President, League of Women Voters of Washington; ROBERT J. CLARK, Master, Washington State Grange; DOUG SUTHERLAND, Mayor, City of Tacoma; R. EDWARD MACDONALD, President, Washington State Association of Water and Wastewater Districts; DON DAVIDSON, Chairman, East King County Regional Water Association.

as authorized by the Legislature, to finance, with public money or credit derived from the sale of energy, the acquisition by private persons of materials and equipment for energy conservation.

## The effect of SJR 8210, if approved into law:

This constitutional amendment would permit local governments, as authorized by the Legislature, to also finance, with public money or credits derived from the sale of water, the acquisition by private persons of materials and equipment for water conservation.

## 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 Senate Joint Resolution 8210 or other individual opposing the measure consented to write an argument against the measure for publication in this pamphlet.

(1) There shall be a commission on judicial conduct, existing as an independent agency of the judicial branch, and consisting of a judge selected by and from the court of appeals judges, a judge selected by and from the superior court judges, a judge selected by and from the district court judges, two persons admitted to the practice of law in this state selected by the state bar association, and six persons who are not attorneys appointed by the governor.

(2) Whenever the commission receives a complaint against a judge or justice, or otherwise has reason to believe that a judge or justice should be admonished, reprimanded, censured, suspended, removed, or retired, the commission shall first investigate the complaint or belief and then conduct initial proceedings for the purpose of determining whether probable cause exists for conducting a public hearing or hearings to deal with the complaint or belief. The investigation and initial proceedings shall be confidential. Upon beginning an initial proceeding, the commission shall notify the judge or justice of the existence of and basis for the initial proceeding.

(3) Whenever the commission concludes, based on an initial proceeding, that there is probable cause to believe that a judge or justice has violated a rule of judicial conduct or that the judge or justice suffers from a disability which is permanent or likely to become permanent and which seriously interferes with the performance of judicial duties, the commission shall conduct a public hearing or hearings and shall make public all those records of the initial proceeding that provide the basis for its conclusion. If the commission concludes that there is not probable cause, it shall notify the judge or justice of its conclusion.

(4) Upon the completion of the hearing or hearings, the commission in open session shall either dismiss the case, or shall admonish, reprimand, or censure the judge or justice, or shall censure the judge or justice and recommend to the supreme court the suspension or removal of the judge or justice, or shall recommend to the supreme court the retirement of the judge or justice. The commission may not recommend suspension or removal unless it censures the judge or justice for the violation serving as the basis for the recommendation. The commission may recommend retirement of a judge or justice for a disability which is permanent or likely to become permanent and which seriously interferes with the performance of judicial duties.

(5) Upon the recommendation of the commission, the supreme court may suspend, remove, or retire a judge or justice. The office of a judge or justice retired or removed by the supreme court becomes vacant, and that person is ineligible for judicial office until eligibility is reinstated by the supreme court. The salary of a removed judge or justice shall cease. The supreme court shall specify the effect upon salary when it suspends a judge or justice. The supreme court may not suspend, remove, or retire a judge or justice until the commission, after notice and hearing, recommends that action be taken, and the supreme court conducts a hearing, after notice, to review commission proceedings and findings against the judge or justice.

(6) Within thirty days after the commission admonishes, reprimands, or censures a judge or justice, the judge or justice shall have a right of appeal de novo to the supreme court.

(7) Any matter before the commission or supreme court may be disposed of by a stipulation entered into in a public proceeding. The stipulation shall be signed by the judge or justice and the commission or court. The stipulation may impose any terms and conditions deemed appropriate by the commission or court. A stipulation

shall set forth all material facts relating to the proceeding and the conduct of the judge or justice.

(8) Whenever the commission adopts a recommendation that a judge or justice be removed, the judge or justice shall be suspended immediately, with salary, from his or her judicial position until a final determination is made by the supreme court.

(9) The legislature shall provide for commissioners' terms of office and compensation. The commission shall employ one or more investigative officers with appropriate professional training and experience. The investigative officers of the commission shall report directly to the commission. The commission shall also employ such administrative or other staff as are necessary to manage the affairs of the commission.

(10) The commission shall, to the extent that compliance does not conflict with this section, comply with laws of general applicability to state agencies with respect to rule-making procedures, and with respect to public notice of an attendance at commission proceedings other than initial proceedings. The commission shall establish rules of procedure for commission proceedings including due process and confidentiality of proceedings.

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 Senate Joint Resolution No. 8210

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, section 10 of the Constitution of the state of Washington to read as follows:

Article VIII, section 10. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 7 of this Article, any county, city, town, quasi municipal corporation, municipal corporation, or political subdivision of the state which is engaged in the sale or distribution of water or energy may, as authorized by the legislature, use public moneys or credit derived from operating revenues from the sale of water or energy to assist the owners of structures or equipment in financing the acquisition and installation of materials and equipment for the conservation or more efficient use of water or energy in such structures or equipment. Except as provided in section 7 of this Article, an appropriate charge back shall be made for such extension of public moneys or credit and the same shall be a lien against the structure benefited or a security interest in the equipment benefited. Any financing for energy conservation authorized by this article shall only be used for conservation purposes in existing structures and shall not be used for any purpose which results in a conversion from one energy source to another.

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.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** The following is the complete text of Chapter 367, Laws of 1989. Although this measure will not be voted upon at the state general election on November 7, it contains the implementing statutes for Senate Joint Resolution 8202 and will become effective if that proposed constitutional amendment is approved by a majority of the voters. The text of this law is included to facilitate each voter's understanding of the effect of the adoption of that proposed amendment to the state constitution.

AN ACT Relating to the commission on judicial conduct; amending RCW 2.64.010, 2.64.020, and 2.64.050; adding new sections to chapter 2.64 RCW; repealing RCW 2.64.091 and 2.64.110; and providing a contingent effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

Sec. 1. Section 2, chapter 268, Laws of 1981 as amended by section 1, chapter 186, Laws of 1987 and RCW 2.64.010 are each amended to read as follows:

~~((For purposes of this chapter,))~~ Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Admonishment" means a written disposition of an advisory nature that cautions a judge or justice not to engage in certain proscribed behavior. An admonishment may include a requirement that the judge or justice follow a specified corrective course of action.

(2) "Censure" means a written action of the commission that requires a judge or justice to appear personally before the commission, and that finds that conduct of the judge or justice violates a rule of judicial conduct, detrimentally affects the integrity of the judiciary, undermines public confidence in the administration of justice, and may or may not require a recommendation to the supreme court that the judge or justice be suspended or removed. A censure shall include a requirement that the judge or justice follow a specified corrective course of action.

(3) "Commission" means the commission on judicial conduct provided for in Article IV, section 31 of the state Constitution, which is authorized to recommend to the supreme court, after notice and hearing, the ~~((censure,))~~ suspension or removal of the judge or justice for violating a rule of judicial conduct, or the retirement of a judge or justice for disability ~~((which is permanent, or likely to become permanent, and which seriously interferes with the performance of judicial duties. For purposes of this chapter, the term))~~.

(4) "Judge or justice" includes justices of the supreme court, judges of the court of appeals, judges of the superior courts, judges of any court organized under Titles 3 or 35 RCW, judges pro tempore, court commissioners, and magistrates.

(5) "Removal" means a written recommendation by the commission and a finding by the supreme court that the conduct of a judge or justice is a violation of a rule of judicial conduct and seriously impairs the integrity of the judiciary and substantially undermines the public confidence in the administration of justice to such a degree that the judge or justice should be relieved of all duties of his or her office.

(6) "Reprimand" means a written action of the commission that requires a judge or justice to appear personally

before the commission, and that finds that the conduct of the judge or justice is a minor violation of the code of judicial conduct and does not require censure or a formal recommendation to the supreme court that the judge or justice be suspended or removed. A reprimand shall include a requirement that the judge or justice follow a specified corrective course of action.

(7) "Retirement" means a written recommendation by the commission and a finding by the supreme court that a judge or justice has a disability which is permanent, or likely to become permanent, and that seriously interferes with the performance of judicial duties.

(8) "Suspension" means a written recommendation by the commission and a finding by the supreme court that the conduct of a judge or justice is a violation of a rule of judicial conduct and seriously impairs the integrity of the judiciary and substantially undermines the public confidence in the administration of justice to such a degree that the judge or justice should be relieved of the duties of his or her office by the court for a specified period of time, as determined by the court.

This chapter shall apply to any judge or justice, regardless of whether the judge or justice serves full time or part time, and regardless of whether the judge or justice is admitted to practice law in this state.

Sec. 2. Section 3, chapter 268, Laws of 1981 as amended by section 2, chapter 186, Laws of 1987 and RCW 2.64.020 are each amended to read as follows:

The commission shall consist of ~~((nine))~~ eleven members. One member shall be a judge selected by and from the court of appeals judges; one member shall be a judge selected by and from the superior court judges; one member shall be a judge selected by and from the district court judges; two members shall be selected by the state bar association and be admitted to the practice of law in this state; and ~~((four))~~ six members shall be nonlawyers appointed by the governor ~~((and confirmed by the senate))~~. The term of each member of the commission shall be four years.

Sec. 3. Section 6, chapter 268, Laws of 1981 and RCW 2.64.050 are each amended to read as follows:

The commission may employ ~~((any))~~ personnel, including ~~((lawyers))~~ attorneys, and make any other expenditures necessary for the effective performance of its duties and the exercise of its powers. The commission may hire attorneys or others by personal service contract to conduct initial proceedings regarding a complaint against a judge or justice. Commission employees shall be exempt from the civil service law, chapter 41.06 RCW.

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 4. A new section is added to chapter 2.64 RCW to read as follows:

The commission is authorized to impose the following disciplinary actions, in increasing order of severity: (a) Admonishment; (b) reprimand; or (c) censure. If the conduct of the judge or justice warrants more severe disciplinary action, the commission may recommend to the supreme court the suspension or removal of the judge or justice.

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 5. A new section is added to chapter 2.64 RCW to read as follows:

The commission is authorized to investigate and consider for probative value any conduct that may have occurred prior to, on, or after December 4, 1980, by a person who was, or is now, a judge or justice when such conduct relates to a complaint filed with the commission against the same judge or justice.

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 6. A new section is added to chapter 2.64 RCW to read as follows:

All pleadings, papers, evidence records, and files of the commission, including complaints and the identity of the complainants, compiled or obtained during the course of an investigation or initial proceeding involving the discipline or retirement of a judge or justice, are exempt from the public disclosure requirements of chapter 42.17 RCW during such investigation or initial proceeding. As of the date of a public hearing, all those records of the initial proceeding that were the basis of a finding of probable cause are subject to the public disclosure requirements of chapter 42.17 RCW.

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 7. A new section is added to chapter 2.64 RCW to read as follows:

The adjudicative proceedings, judicial review, and civil enforcement provisions of chapter 34.05 RCW, the administrative procedure act, do not apply to any investigations, initial proceedings, public hearings, or executive sessions involving the discipline or retirement of a judge or justice.

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 8. A new section is added to chapter 2.64 RCW to read as follows:

The commission is subject to the open public meetings act, chapter 42.30 RCW. However, investigations, initial proceedings, public hearings, and executive sessions involving the discipline or retirement of a judge or justice are governed by this chapter and Article IV, section 31 of the state Constitution and are exempt from the provisions of chapter 42.30 RCW.

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 9. A new section is added to chapter 2.64 RCW to read as follows:

The commission shall provide by rule for confidentiality of its investigations and initial proceedings in accordance with Article IV, section 31 of the state Constitution.

Any person violating a rule on confidentiality is subject to a proceeding for contempt in superior court.

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 10. A new section is added to chapter 2.64 RCW to read as follows:

Whenever the commission determines that there is probable cause to believe that a judge or justice has violated a rule of judicial conduct or that the judge or justice suffers from a disability which is permanent or likely to become permanent and which seriously interferes with the performance of judicial duties, the commission shall disclose to the judge or justice any material or information within the commission's knowledge which tends to negate the determination of the commission, except as otherwise provided by a protective order.

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 11. The following acts or parts of act are each repealed:

(1) Section 4, chapter 186, Laws of 1987 and RCW 2.64.091; and

(2) Section 12, chapter 268, Laws of 1981, section 5, chapter 186, Laws of 1987 and RCW 2.64.110.

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 12. This act shall take effect upon the effective date of an amendment to Article IV, section 31 of the state Constitution making changes to the commission on judicial conduct. If such amendment is not validly submitted to and approved and ratified by the voters at a general election held in November 1989, this act shall be null and void in its entirety.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** The following is the complete text of Chapter 421, Laws of 1989. Although this measure will not be voted upon at the state general election on November 7, it contains the implementing statutes for Senate Joint Resolution 8210 and will become effective if that proposed constitutional amendment is approved by a majority of the voters. The text of this law is included to facilitate each voter's understanding of the effect of the adoption of that proposed amendment to the state constitution.

AN ACT Relating to conservation of water; adding a new section to chapter 35.92 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 54.16 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 57.08 RCW; creating new sections; and providing a contingent effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 1. The conservation and efficient use of water is found and declared to be a public purpose of highest priority. The legislature further finds and declares that all municipal corporations, public utility districts, water districts, and other political subdivisions of the state that are engaged in the sale or distribution of water should be granted the authority to develop and carry out programs that will conserve resources, reduce waste, and encourage more efficient use of water by consumers.

In order to establish the most effective state-wide program for water conservation, the legislature hereby encourages any company, corporation, or association engaged in selling or furnishing utility services to assist their customers in the acquisition and installation of fixtures, systems, and equipment, for compensation or otherwise, for the conservation or more efficient use of water.

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 2. This section was vetoed by Governor Booth Gardner, May 13, 1989.

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 35.92 RCW to read as follows:

Any city or town engaged in the sale or distribution of water is hereby authorized, within limits established by the Constitution of the state of Washington, to assist the owners of structures in financing the acquisition and installation of fixtures, systems, and equipment, for compensation or otherwise, for the conservation or more efficient use of water in the structures under a water conservation plan adopted by the city or town if the cost per unit of water saved or conserved by the use of the fixtures, systems, and equipment is less than the cost per unit of water supplied by the next least costly new water source available to the city or town to meet future demand. Except where otherwise authorized, assistance shall be limited to:

(1) Providing an inspection of the structure, either directly or through one or more inspectors under contract, to determine and inform the owner of the estimated cost of purchasing and installing conservation fixtures, systems, and equipment for which financial assistance will be approved and the estimated life cycle savings to the water system and the consumer that are likely to result from the installation of the fixtures, systems, or equipment;

(2) Providing a list of businesses that sell and

install the fixtures, systems, and equipment within or in close proximity to the service area of the city or town, each of which businesses shall have requested to be included and shall have the ability to provide the products in a workmanlike manner and to utilize the fixtures, systems, and equipment in accordance with the prevailing national standards;

(3) Arranging to have approved conservation fixtures, systems, and equipment installed by a private contractor whose bid is acceptable to the owner of the structure and verifying the installation; and

(4) Arranging or providing financing for the purchase and installation of approved conservation fixtures, systems, and equipment. The fixtures, systems, and equipment shall be purchased or installed by a private business, the owner, or the utility.

Pay back shall be in the form of incremental additions to the utility bill, billed either together with use charge or separately. Loans shall not exceed one hundred twenty months in length.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 54.16 RCW to read as follows:

Any district is hereby authorized, within limits established by the Constitution of the state of Washington, to assist the owners of structures in financing the acquisition and installation of fixtures, systems, and equipment, for compensation or otherwise, for the conservation or more efficient use of water in the structures under a water conservation plan adopted by the district if the cost per unit of water saved or conserved by the use of the fixtures, systems, and equipment is less than the cost per unit of water supplied by the next least costly new water source available to the district to meet future demand. Except where otherwise authorized, assistance shall be limited to:

(1) Providing an inspection of the structure, either directly or through one or more inspectors under contract, to determine and inform the owner of the estimated cost of purchasing and installing conservation fixtures, systems, and equipment for which financial assistance will be approved and the estimated life cycle savings to the water system and the consumer that are likely to result from the installation of the fixtures, systems, or equipment;

(2) Providing a list of businesses that sell and install the fixtures, systems, and equipment within or in close proximity to the service area of the city or town, each of which businesses shall have requested to be included and shall have the ability to provide the products in a workmanlike manner and to utilize the fixtures, systems, and equipment in accordance with the prevailing national standards;

(3) Arranging to have approved conservation fixtures, systems, and equipment installed by a private contractor whose bid is acceptable to the owner of the structure and verifying the installation; and

(4) Arranging or providing financing for the purchase and installation of approved conservation fixtures, systems, and equipment. The fixtures, systems, and equipment shall be purchased or installed by a private business, the owner, or the utility.

Pay back shall be in the form of incremental additions to the utility bill, billed either together with use charge or separately. Loans shall not exceed one hundred twenty months in length.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 57.08 RCW to read as follows:

Any district is hereby authorized, within limits

established by the Constitution of the state of Washington, to assist the owners of structures in financing the acquisition and installation of fixtures, systems, and equipment, for compensation or otherwise, for the conservation or more efficient use of water in the structures under a water conservation plan adopted by the district if the cost per unit of water saved or conserved by the use of the fixtures, systems, and equipment is less than the cost per unit of water supplied by the next least costly new water source available to the district to meet future demand. Except where otherwise authorized, assistance shall be limited to:

(1) Providing an inspection of the structure, either directly or through one or more inspectors under contract, to determine and inform the owner of the estimated cost of purchasing and installing conservation fixtures, systems, and equipment for which financial assistance will be approved and the estimated life cycle savings to the water system and the consumer that are likely to result from the installation of the fixtures, systems, or equipment;

(2) Providing a list of businesses that sell and install the fixtures, systems, and equipment within or in close proximity to the service area of the city or town, each of which businesses shall have requested to be included and shall have the ability to provide the products in a workmanlike manner and to utilize the fixtures, systems, and equipment in accordance with the prevailing national standards;

(3) Arranging to have approved conservation fixtures, systems, and equipment installed by a private contractor whose bid is acceptable to the owner of the structure and verifying the installation; and

(4) Arranging or providing financing for the purchase and installation of approved conservation fixtures, systems, and equipment. The fixtures, systems, and equipment shall be purchased or installed by a private business, the owner, or the utility.

Pay back shall be in the form of incremental additions to the utility bill, billed either together with use charge or separately. Loans shall not exceed one hundred twenty months in length.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 6.** This act shall take effect on the same date as the proposed amendment to Article VIII of the state Constitution, authorizing the use of public moneys or credit to promote conservation or more efficient use of water, is validly submitted and is approved and ratified by the voters at a general election held in November 1989. If the proposed amendment is not so approved and ratified, this act shall be void in its entirety.