



SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 8203

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 8203 begins on page 31.

Vote cast by the 1991 Legislature on final passage:

House: Yeas, 95; Nays, 0; Excused, 3; Absent or not voting, 0.

Senate: Yeas, 33; Nays, 12; Excused, 4; Absent or not voting, 0.

Statement for

A MORE SIMPLE AND DIRECT ALTERNATIVE METHOD

SJR 8203 provides a more simple and direct method to submit a proposed county home rule charter to voters for their approval or rejection. It does not eliminate the current freeholder option. The existing method to write a county home rule charter is time consuming, complicated, expensive, and has frustrated voters.

SJR 8203 IS ANOTHER WAY TO SECURE COUNTY HOME RULE

Under SJR 8203, the Legislature creates an unsalaried temporary commission to prepare five different county charters. Any one of these charters may be submitted directly to voters upon either a petition filed by county voters or a decision by the county government. The same procedures are used to elect freeholders under the existing method.

The only changes under SJR 8203 are to *eliminate double elections* and to offer a *more direct, less costly alternative method* of submitting a proposed county home rule charter. A charter cannot be adopted without voter approval.

WHY COUNTY HOME RULE?

By adopting a county home rule charter, local voters — instead of the Legislature — determine the structure of their county government. Voters need the flexibility to determine what structure is most appropriate for their local needs.

When voters approve a charter, the county may offer its citizens:

- The right of initiative and referendum on county matters.

Official Ballot Title:

Shall the Constitution be amended to permit an alternative method of drafting county home rule charters for submission to voters?

The law as it now exists:

The Constitution permits the voters of a county to approve the adoption of a home rule charter. The process set forth in the Constitution requires an election in the county of 15 to 25 freeholders. The elected freeholders then draft a

- A more representative county council or board.
- The power to adapt to changing needs through voter approved charter amendments.

SJR 8203 INCREASES VOTERS' POWER

Thoughtfully drafted alternative charters enhance the ability of voters to govern themselves by offering a variety of choices for county government.

Why not let the voters decide, rather than the Legislature? **VOTE YES.**

Rebuttal of Statement against

The opponents' arguments are not valid. SJR 8203 *does not* take away the right to elect freeholders. It is an *alternative* which gives citizens the choice of selecting one of five predrafted charters or drafting their own. Local control is enhanced, not diminished.

The structure of government in counties without home rule charters is at the mercy of the state legislature. This amendment will make it easier for counties to control their own affairs.

Voters Pamphlet Statement Prepared by:

BOB McCASLIN, Washington State Senator; MARY MARGARET HAUGEN, Washington State Representative; ROY A. FERGUSON, Washington State Representative.

Advisory Committee: CHUCK KLARICH, President, Washington State Association of Counties; LOIS NORTH, Member, King County Council; SAM S. REED, Thurston County Auditor; DOROTHY DUNCAN, Clallam County Commissioner; RUTHE RIDDER, King County Assessor.

proposed home rule charter which is submitted to the county voters for approval or rejection.

The effect of Senate Joint Resolution 8203, if approved into law:

The present process for adopting a home rule charter would be retained and an alternative method would be provided.

The new alternative method would have a state committee appointed by the Governor draft five alternative home rule charters. A county legislative body or a petition signed by the equivalent of 10 percent of the county voters voting in the preceding general election could select one of the five alternative proposed home rule charters to be submitted to the county voters for approval or rejection. The voters would then either approve or reject the proposed charter.

Statement against

PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS: VOTE NO ON SJR 8203

Watch out, the purpose of SJR 8203 is to reduce your constitutional rights while expanding the power of state government.

Article XI, Section 4 of our Constitution permits the voters of a county to approve the adoption of a home rule charter. The process set forth in the Constitution requires the election in the county of 15 to 25 freeholders. The elected freeholders in your county then draft a proposed home rule charter which is submitted to the county voters for approval or rejection. Elected freeholders hold meetings and proposed changes are discussed in public hearings so all voters are aware of proposed changes in county government.

BEWARE: STATE GOVERNMENT TAKES THE POWER

The effect of SJR 8203 if approved takes the power away from the citizens and places it in the hands of the state government.

The new alternative method would have a state committee—appointed by the Governor—draft five alternative home rule charters. Voters would not have a role in writing a charter.

Remember, the Home Rule Charter Constitutional change was defeated overwhelmingly in every county in the state in 1976. At that time, the measure before the voters was HJR 64. It received 347,555 "yes" votes and 892,419 "no" votes.

RETAIN YOUR RIGHTS: VOTE "NO" ON SJR 8203.

Rebuttal of Statement for

Protect your Constitutional Rights.
Vote "No" on SJR 8203.

Beware of those people who say they have a simple direct way to change your local government. You, the voters in the county, can make that change now and can participate in formulating any new county government.

A commission—appointed by the Governor to draw up alternative plans for you to select from—will not improve the process.

Retain your rights. Vote "No" on SJR 8203.

Voters Pamphlet Statement Prepared by:

A.L. (SLIM) RASMUSSEN, State Senator; IRV NEWHOUSE, State Senator.



COMPLETE TEXT OF Initiative Measure 120 (con't.)

permit them to voluntarily terminate their pregnancies.

NEW SECTION, Sec. 8. For purposes of this chapter:

(1) "Viability" means the point in the pregnancy when, in the judgment of the physician on the particular facts of the case before such physician, there is a reasonable likelihood of the fetus's sustained survival outside the uterus without the application of extraordinary medical measures.

(2) "Abortion" means any medical treatment intended to induce the termination of a pregnancy except for the purpose of producing a live birth.

(3) "Pregnancy" means the reproductive process beginning with the implantation of an embryo.

(4) "Physician" means a physician licensed to practice under chapter 18.57 or 18.71 RCW in the state of Washington.

(5) "Health care provider" means a physician or a person acting under the general direction of a physician.

(6) "State" means the state of Washington and counties, cities, towns, municipal corporations, and quasi-municipal corporations in the state of Washington.

(7) "Private medical facility" means any medical facility that is not owned or operated by the state.

NEW SECTION, Sec. 9. The following acts or parts of acts are each repealed:

(1) Section 38, page 81, Laws of 1854, section 40, page 209, Laws of 1869, section 42, page 188, Laws of 1873, section 821, Code of 1881, section 196, chapter 249, Laws of 1909 and RCW 9.02.010;

(2) Section 197, chapter 249, Laws of 1909 and RCW 9.02.020;

(3) Section 198, chapter 249, Laws of 1909 and RCW 9.02.030;

(4) Section 199, chapter 249, Laws of 1909 and RCW 9.02.040;

(5) Section 1, chapter 3, Laws of 1970 ex. sess. and RCW 9.02.060;

(6) Section 2, chapter 3, Laws of 1970 ex. sess. and RCW 9.02.070;

(7) Section 3, chapter 3, Laws of 1970 ex. sess. and RCW 9.02.080; and

(8) Section 5, chapter 3, Laws of 1970 ex. sess. and RCW 9.02.090.

NEW SECTION, Sec. 10. This act shall not be construed to define the state's interest in the fetus for any purpose other than the specific provisions of this act.

NEW SECTION, Sec. 11. If any provision of this act or

its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

NEW SECTION, Sec. 12. This act shall be known and may be cited as the Reproductive Privacy Act.

NEW SECTION, Sec. 13. Sections 1 through 8 and 10 through 12 of this act are each added to chapter 9.02 RCW.

PLEASE NOTE:

In the preceding and following measures, all words in double brackets with a line through them are in the State Law or Constitution at the present time and are being taken out by the measure. All words underlined do not appear in the State Law or Constitution as they are now written but will be put in if the measure is adopted.



COMPLETE TEXT OF Senate Joint Resolution 8203

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

Article XI, section ... In addition to the methods of framing a county home rule charter contained in section 4 of this Article, a charter may be framed as provided in this section. The legislature shall without unreasonable delay enact legislation creating and appropriating funds for a temporary county home rule commission of fifteen members. The commission shall draft five alternative county "Home Rule" charters, a copy of which shall be submitted to the legislative authority of each county, and shall be retained by the state in its permanent records. The commission shall



COMPLETE TEXT OF Senate Joint Resolution 8203 (con't.)

exist not more than one year. Commission members shall be appointed by the governor with at least one-third of the members to consist of members of the legislature and elected county officials. A new county home rule commission with the same membership qualifications, which shall exist no longer than a one-year period, shall be appointed by the governor to redraft any of the alternative "Home Rule" charters whenever the legislature enacts legislation calling for the creation of a new temporary home rule commission. As far as practical, all commissions created under this section shall be representative of major geographic areas of the state and the state's demographic distribution.

A single alternative charter may be submitted at an election to voters of any county for their approval and ratification, or rejection, upon either: (1) An ordinance adopted by the county legislative authority; or (2) the filing of a petition calling for an election which is signed by registered voters of the county equal in number to ten percent of the voters voting at the last preceding general election in the county. Upon approval and ratification of a charter by the voters of the county under this section, the charter shall become the organic law of the county.

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 and that the ballot title of the foregoing constitutional amendment shall be: "Shall an additional procedure be permitted to simplify the process by which a proposed county charter is placed upon the ballot?"



COMPLETE TEXT OF House Joint Resolution 4218

BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE AND THE 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 IV, section 23 of the Constitution of the state of Washington to read as follows:

Article IV, section 23. There may be appointed in each county, by the judge of the superior court having jurisdiction therein, one or more court commissioners, (~~not exceeding three in number;~~) who shall have authority to perform like duties as a judge of the superior court at chambers, subject to revision by such judge, to take depositions and to perform such other business connected with the administration of justice as may be prescribed by law. The number of court commissioners in each county shall be determined by the legislative authority of that county.

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.

LANGUAGE ASSISTANCE

In many instances, assistance can be provided to those who have difficulty reading this pamphlet because their primary language is not English. For more information, call the Secretary of State Voter Information Hotline at 1-800-448-4881.

**NOTE: Important new election laws take effect next year.
Please read page 4 thoroughly.**