

# INITIATIVE MEASURE 553

TO THE PEOPLE

Note: The ballot title and explanatory statement were written by the Attorney General as required by law. The complete text of Initiative Measure 553 begins on page 22.

## **Official Ballot Title:**

Shall there be limitations on terms of office for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, State Legislators, and Washington State members of Congress?

# The law as it now exists:

Persons can be candidates for election or re-election for the State Legislature, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Congress without any limitation based on prior service. No one is disqualified from seeking those offices for having previously served.

## Statement for

#### Term Limitation Is A Crucial Bi-partisan Government Reform

Vote YES for Initiative 553 for real political reform. That's why over a quarter million Democrats, Republicans, and Independents signed this initiative. I-553 will solve a fundamental problem in our political system: the need to limit the number of years a politician can stay in a particular office. Vote YES on I-553 for necessary government reform!

#### Return Control of OUR Government to the People — Where it Belongs

"Experienced" career politicians, financed by PACs and special interest money, have brought us the S&L scandal, a \$3 trillion national debt and elected officials' excessive pay raises. Term limitation will make it more difficult for lobbyists to maintain their influence with elected officials. Our Founding Fathers envisioned citizen legislators, not career politicians. Vote YES on 1-553 to reduce special interest influence.

#### **Reduce the Influence of Lobbyists and Special Interests**

Re-election is a politician's top priority. Nothing proves it more than the outrageous growth in campaign spending using PAC and special interest money. We have a system where incumbents, who choose to run, nearly always win -96% re-elected to Congress in 1990, 96% re-elected to the Washington State Legislature. Excellent candidates are discouraged from running against incumbents. Vote YES on I-553 to provide opportunities for fair competition.

#### Term Limitation Is a National Movement

Our President and 31 governors have term limits. Oklahoma, Colorado and California passed term limits in 1990. Term limitation movements are underway in 22 states for 1992. Nationally, incumbency has taken over our political system and voters are staying home. Vote YES on I-553 to regain meaningful choice at the voting booth, locally and nationally.

Vote YES on I-553 to assure a responsive citizen legislature.

## **Rebuttal of Statement against**

Scare tactics and doomsaying are desperate maneuvers by career politicians who don't want to give up their power and perks.

Thomas Jefferson was the original advocate for term limitations because he foresaw the problems associated with the accumulation of power.

I-553 makes our representatives more accountable to us. What's so radical about that? Ask yourself this question. If special interests and bureaucrats will flourish under term limits, why are they so opposed to term limits?

For more information call (206) 475-8650.

#### Voters Pamphlet Statement Prepared by:

JACK METCALF, Chair of the Senate Environment & Natural Resources Committee; SHERRY BOCKWINKEL, Independent Businesswoman; PROFESSOR WALLACE M. RUDOLPH, Professor of Constitutional, Legislative & Administrative Law, Puget Sound School of Law.

Advisory Committee: JOHN SONNELAND, Spokane area businessman and professional; DEAN SUGIMOTO, Accountant; SAM ALLRED, Democratic Precinct Chair, Sumner; CHARLES F. GRIGG, President of Griggs Enterprises; PAUL CASEY, Publisher of Maturing/The Federal Reporter.

## The effect of initiative Measure 553, if approved into law:

This initiative declares that no one would be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms as Governor or Lieutenant Governor.

For state legislative offices, the declared maximum would beten consecutive years; with no more than three consecutive terms in the House or two consecutive terms in the Senate. Current legislators who have already reached the maximum would be eligible to serve one additional term of office.

For congressional offices, the declared maximum would be twelve consecutive years; with no more than three consecutive terms in the House or two consecutive terms in the Senate. Current members of Congress who have already reached the maximum would be eligible to serve one additional term of office. For legislative and congressional offices, terms would be considered as consecutive unless they are at least six years, apart.

## Statement against

 Initiative 553 is a radical effort to reform politics which will do more harm than good.

 Today we can choose which officials to keep and which have been there too long. 553 would take that choice away. Between 1979 and 1989 we turned over 81% of our legislature. Almost a quarter were new in 1991. Washington voters are turning incumbents out now. This initiative is a solution to a problem that doesn't exist.

If 553 passes, we will lose all of our Congressional delegation in 1994. Speaker of the House Tom Foley and past giants such as Scoop Jackson, Dan Evans and Warren Magnuson have protected us against powerful east coast interests. How will newcomers have the clout to protect the electric rates and Infigation rights which underpin our economy? How can we prevent the closure of a Whidbey Island Naval Air Station and keep supertankers out of Puget Sound? Do we want offshore oil drilling? There's too much to lose.

 Without senior members, the Legislature will have less institutional memory, and the influence of professional lobbyists and appointed bureaucrats will increase.

 553 won't take big money out of campaigns. And it will actually reduce competition. Why run against an incumbent when you can wait for an automatic open seat?

If 553 passes, we'll lose good people with the bad.
And will the new ones be better — or just know less?

## **Rebuttal of Statement for**

Term limitation is NOT a national movement. Only one state has done what initiative 553 would do. Most people recognize that to send new corners to Congress while other states don't would be to lose the power to protect the regional economy and natural resources.

Initiative 553 will NOT reduce the influence of special interests. We need to take big money out of campaigns. Initiative 553 will not do that.

You should decide who to vote for. Yote no on Initiative 553.

#### Voters Pamphlet Statement Prepared by:

MARGARET COLONY, President, League of Women Voters of Washington; ROBERT CLARK, Master, Washington State Grange; NORMAN TURRILL, President, Common Cause of Washington State.

Advisory Committee: DARLENE MADENWALD, President, Washington Environmental Councel; CENE PETERSON; NORLEEN KOPONEN, President, Washington State Chapter, National Organization for Women; LARRY KENNEY, President, Washington State Labor Council; MARI CLACK.

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### COMPLETE TEXT OF Initiative Measure 553

AN ACT Relating to term limits for elected officials; adding a new section to chapter 43.01 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 44.04 RCW; and adding a new section to chapter 29.68 RCW.

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

<u>NEW SECTION</u>, Sec. 1. A new section is added to chapter 43.01 RCW to read as follows:

A person elected to the office of governor or lieutenant governor is eligible to serve not more than two consecutive terms in each office.

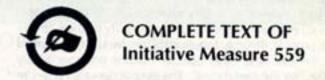
NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 44.04 RCW to read as follows:

A person elected to the Washington state legislature is eligible to serve not more than three consecutive terms in the house of representatives and not more than two consecutive terms in the senate. In addition, no person may serve more than ten consecutive years in any combination of house and senate membership. Terms are considered consecutive unless they are at least six years apart. Therefore, elected legislators who have reached their maximum term limits are eligible for legislative office after an absence of six years from the state legislature. Persons who have already reached the maximum term of service on the effective date of this act are eligible to serve one additional term in either the state house of representatives or the senate.

<u>NEW SECTION</u>, Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 29.68 RCW to read as follows:

A person elected to the United States congress from this state is eligible to serve not more than three consecutive terms in the United States house of representatives and not more than two consecutive terms in the United States senate and not more than twelve consecutive years in any combination of United States house and senate membership. Terms are considered to be consecutive unless they are at least six years apart. Therefore, elected legislators who have reached their maximum term limits are eligible for legislative office after an absence of six years from the United States congress. Persons who have already reached the maximum term of service on the effective date of this act are eligible to serve one additional term in either the United States house of representatives or senate.

<u>NEW SECTION</u>. Sec. 4. 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.



AN ACT Relating to property value assessment; amending RCW 84.40.030; adding new sections to chapter 84.40 RCW; and creating new sections.

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

Sec. 1. RCW 84.40.030 and 1988 c 222 s 14 are each amended to read as follows:

Except as provided in sections 2 and 3 of this act, all property shall be valued at one hundred percent of its true and fair value in money and assessed on the same basis unless specifically provided otherwise by law.

Taxable leasehold estates shall be valued at such price as they would bring at a fair, voluntary sale for cash without any deductions for any indebtedness owed including rentals to be paid. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section or of any other statute, when the value of any taxable leasehold estate created prior to January 1, 1971 is being determined for assessment years prior to the assessment year 1973, there shall be deducted from what would otherwise be the value thereof the present worth of the rentals and other consideration which may be required of the lessee by the lessor for the unexpired term thereof: PROVIDED, That the foregoing provisions of this sentence shall not apply to any extension or renewal, made after December 31, 1970 of the term of any such estate, or to any such estate after the date, if any, provided for in the agreement for rental renegotiation.

The true and fair value of real property for taxation purposes (including property upon which there is a coal or other mine, or stone or other quarry) shall be based upon the following criteria:

(1) Any sales of the property being appraised or similar properties with respect to sales made within the past five years. The appraisal shall take into consideration political restrictions such as zoning as well as physical and environmental influences. The appraisal shall also take into account, (a) in the use of sales by real estate contract as similar sales, the extent, if any, to which the stated selling price has been increased by reason of the down payment, interest rate, or other financing terms; and (b) the extent to which the sale of a similar property actually represents the general effective market demand for property of such type, in the geographical area in which such property is located. Sales involving deed releases or similar seller-developer financing arrangements shall not be used as sales of similar property.

(2) In addition to sales as defined in subsection (1), consideration may be given to cost, cost less depreciation, reconstruction cost less depreciation, or capitalization of income that would be derived from prudent use of the property. In the case of property of a complex nature, or