

# STATE OF WASHINGTON VOTERS' PAMPHLET

GENERAL ELECTION, NOVEMBER 6, 2007



## WASHINGTON SYMBOLS

EDITION 4

Folk Song:  
Roll On, Columbia, Roll On

Song:  
Washington, My Home



Published by the Office of the Secretary of State  
and the Cowlitz County Auditor

## Introduction to the 2007 Voters' Pamphlet

*Dear Voter,*

With your help, recent improvements to Washington's voting process have created one of the nation's strongest democracies. More than ever, our elections process suits the Northwest and protects your right to vote.

Instead of rushing to poll sites before work or during a lunch hour, most Washingtonians are enjoying the convenience of voting at home. Like our neighbors in Oregon, we've discovered that voting by mail fits our lifestyle. This safe method of voting increases turnout, promotes an informed electorate, and simplifies democracy — increasing the accuracy of every election. In 2008, at least 37 of 39 counties in our state will conduct all-mail elections.

Washington's democracy protects the right to vote for every citizen, including military and overseas citizens. Our state just finished its first August primary with enormous success. Moving the election from September to August allows a soldier stationed or deployed overseas to exercise the very privilege he or she protects. An August primary protects the right to vote by giving military and overseas citizens more time to receive, vote, and return their general election ballots. The date change is one of the most important election reforms passed in modern, state history.

As you study the 2007 Voters' Pamphlet and the measures and candidates who will most directly shape your community, please note the state symbols captured on the cover. Each speaks to Washington's proud heritage. The newest are the state amphibian, the Pacific chorus frog, native to both sides of the Cascades; the Walla Walla sweet onion, now the state vegetable; and *Lady Washington*, which has been designated Washington's official ship. It is a reproduction, built in Grays Harbor, that mirrors the *Columbia* (1750-98), commanded by Capt. Robert Gray. The *Columbia* was the first American ship to sail into Grays Harbor and the Columbia River (named, respectively, after Gray and his vessel).

I thank you for engaging in our democracy and your vital role in the success of so many election changes implemented during the last several election cycles. I urge you to use this important election resource, study campaign literature, and visit [www.vote.wa.gov](http://www.vote.wa.gov) to make the most informed decisions on your ballot.

Remember to vote by November 6, 2007.

Sincerely,



Handwritten signature of Sam Reed in black ink.

SAM REED  
Secretary of State

*Dear Cowlitz County Voters,*

I am pleased to provide to you the 2007 General Election Local Voters' Pamphlet. Voting is a constitutional right and civic responsibility. We hope you will use this pamphlet to become informed about the candidates and issues and will exercise your right to vote.

This year, our office took steps to improve accessibility and convenience for voters. We installed five curbside ballot boxes throughout the county. The list of locations is contained in this pamphlet. The ballot boxes are open 24-hours a day beginning 20 days before each election, and close at 8:00 p.m. on election night. Voters can deposit their ballot in these boxes without leaving their vehicle. No postage is required. The response to the curbside ballot boxes in the Primary was great, with 33 percent of the voters using them.

AutoMARK ballot marking devices are available beginning 20 days before each election at the Cowlitz County Administration Building, Room 107, 207 North 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Kelso. The AutoMARK is for voters with special needs, and allows many voters to vote secretly and independently for the first time. Voters can mark their ballot, confirm their mark, and verify their voted ballot. AutoMARKs also will be made available to voters in retirement and assisted living homes and to senior centers upon request. More information about the AutoMARK is contained in this pamphlet.

Ballots for the General Election will be mailed on October 19. Since ballots are mailed to the address shown on your registration record, it is very important to give your auditor's office your new address each time you move. This will help ensure that you receive your ballot on time.

Let your voice be heard! Vote in the November 6, 2007 General Election.

Sincerely,



Handwritten signature of Kristina K. Swanson in black ink.

KRISTINA K. SWANSON  
Cowlitz County Auditor

**Secretary of State Voter Information Hotline (800) 448-4881**

**TDD/TTY Hotline for the hearing or speech impaired (800) 422-8683**

Visit our online voters' guide at [www.vote.wa.gov](http://www.vote.wa.gov)

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## Help America Vote Act Information

Under Section 402(a)(2) of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA), P.L. 107-252 and Washington Administrative Code, Chapter 434-263, any person who believes that a violation of any provision of Title III of HAVA has occurred, is occurring, or is about to occur, may file a complaint with the Office of the Secretary of State. A complaint form can be found at [www.secstate.wa.gov/elections/reform\\_federal.aspx](http://www.secstate.wa.gov/elections/reform_federal.aspx) or a letter containing the following information will be considered an acceptable complaint.

### A. Person making complaint

Name, address, city, state, ZIP, county, home and work phone numbers.

### B. Description of the alleged violation

Please identify:

1. The facts of the alleged violation;
2. Witnesses, if any, and contact information if you have it;
3. Date and time you became aware of the alleged violation;
4. Location where the alleged violation occurred;
5. Who is responsible for the alleged violation; and
6. Other information that you think will be helpful in resolving your complaint.

All complaints must be **notarized** and filed no later than 30 calendar days of the date after the certification of the election at issue and sent to the Washington Secretary of State, Elections Division, PO Box 40229, Olympia, WA 98504-0229. The state shall make a final determination within 90 days of receiving the complaint.

## Address Confidentiality Program

If you are a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking who has chosen not to register to vote because you are afraid your perpetrator will track you down through voter registration records, the Office of the Secretary of State has a program that might be able to help you. The Address Confidentiality Program (ACP) works together with community domestic violence and sexual assault programs in an effort to keep crime victims safer. The ACP provides participants with a substitute mailing address that can be used when the victim conducts business with state or local government agencies. The ACP also provides participants with the option of confidential voter registration. All ACP participants must be referred to the program by a local domestic violence or sexual assault advocate who can help develop a comprehensive safety plan.

### Need More Information?

For more information about the ACP and the phone number of victim resources in your community, call the ACP toll-free at (800) 822-1065, TDD/TTY at (800) 664-9677 or visit [www.secstate.wa.gov/acp](http://www.secstate.wa.gov/acp).

# Voting in Washington State

## Voter Qualifications

You may register and vote in elections in Washington State if you:

- Reside in Washington;
- Are a U.S. citizen;
- Are at least 18 years old on or before Election Day; and
- Have had your voting rights restored if you were ever convicted of a felony.

In Washington State, you do not declare political party membership when you register to vote.

## Registration Deadlines

While you may register to vote at any time, keep in mind that there are registration deadlines prior to each election. You must be registered at least **30 days** before an election if you register by mail or through the Motor Voter program. You may register **in person** at the office of your county elections department up to **15 days** before an election. However, you must vote by absentee ballot for that particular election. The phone number and address of your county elections department is located in the back of this pamphlet.

## How to Register to Vote

Forms are available on the Internet at [www.vote.wa.gov](http://www.vote.wa.gov) or at your county elections department, public libraries, schools, and other government offices. You may also request a form through the State Voter Information Hotline. (*See Services and Additional Assistance on this page.*)

## Keep Your Voter Registration Up-to-Date

If your voter registration record does not contain your *current* name or address, you may not be able to vote. You can use the mail-in voter registration form to let your county elections department know when you move or change your name, or go online to [www.vote.wa.gov](http://www.vote.wa.gov). You must re-register or transfer your registration at least **30 days** before the election to be eligible to vote in your new precinct.

## Absentee Ballots

Absentee ballot requests must be made to your county elections department (not the Secretary of State). No absentee ballots

are issued on Election Day except to a registered voter who is a resident of a health care facility. A ballot may be requested in person, by phone, by mail, electronically, or by a member of your immediate family as early as **90 days** before an election.

You may also apply in writing to **automatically** receive an absentee ballot before each election. An absentee ballot request form is on the back page of this pamphlet. ***If you have already requested an absentee ballot or have a permanent request for a ballot on file, please do not submit another application.***

Many of Washington's counties now conduct all elections by mail. You will receive your absentee or mail-in ballot approximately 14 days prior to the election. Upon receipt, vote your ballot. *Please do not* attempt to vote again at your polling location if your county still has poll sites. Absentee and mail-in ballots must be signed and postmarked or delivered to your county elections department **on or before** Election Day. In order to assist processing, return your voted ballot early.

## Election Dates and Poll Hours

The General Election is November 6, 2007. Polling place hours for counties with polling places are 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

## Services and Additional Assistance

Under the Help America Vote Act, each county is required to have special voting equipment for anyone unable to vote the ballot independently. This equipment is available at poll site locations, if your county has poll sites, at voting centers, or at your county elections department. Contact your county elections department for more information on voting your ballot or finding your poll site or nearest voting center. The phone number and address of your county elections department is located in this pamphlet.

Contact the Office of the Secretary of State for:

- Voters' Pamphlets in alternative formats (Braille, audio cassette, large print) or languages (Spanish, Chinese);
- Lists of initiatives and referenda; and
- Voter registration, voting, and absentee ballot information.

This information is also available at [www.vote.wa.gov](http://www.vote.wa.gov) or call the Voter Information Hotline, (800) 448-4881 (TDD/TTY for the hearing- or speech-impaired **only** is (800) 422-8683).

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## Request for Mail-In Voter Registration Form

(Please print)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of forms requested: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL TO: Office of the Secretary of State, Voter Registration, PO Box 40230, Olympia, WA 98504-0230

# *Public Access to Campaign Spending Reports*

## **Contributions to Candidates and Political Committees**

No person may make contributions to a state legislative candidate that exceed \$700 per election in which the candidate's name is on the ballot. Contributions to state executive candidates may not exceed \$1,400 in the primary and \$1,400 in the general election. A person may give unlimited funds to the exempt activities account of a political party, to ballot issue committees, or to other political committees. During the 21 days before the general election, however, a person may contribute no more than \$5,000 to a local or judicial office candidate, political party, or other political committee. Contributions from corporations, unions, businesses, associations, and similar organizations are permitted, subject to limits and other restrictions.

## **Registration and Reporting by Candidates and Political Committees**

No later than two weeks after an individual becomes a candidate or a political committee is organized, a campaign finance registration statement must be filed with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) and the county elections department. (Committees that form within three weeks of the election must register within three business days.) The candidate or committee treasurer is also required to report periodically the source and amount of campaign contributions over \$25 and to list campaign expenditures. The occupation and employer of individuals giving more than \$100 to a campaign must also be identified.

These reports may be inspected and copied at the PDC's Olympia office, the county elections department in the county where the candidate lives, and on the Internet ([www.pdc.wa.gov](http://www.pdc.wa.gov)). Every candidate and political committee participating in the election must make their campaign books and records available for public inspection, by

appointment, during the eight days before the election except Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays. Use the contact information provided on the campaign registration to make an appointment.

## **Independent Campaign Expenditures**

Anyone making expenditures totaling \$100 or more in support of or in opposition to a state or local candidate or ballot measure (not including contributions made to a candidate or political committee) must file a report with the PDC and their county elections department within five days. Forms are available from the PDC and the county elections department, or can be downloaded from the PDC website. Finally, all political advertising must identify the person paying for the ad and may be required to include other information. Expenditures for independently sponsored political advertisements that cost \$1,000 or more and appear during the last three weeks before an election must be reported to the PDC within 24 hours of when the ad is first presented to the public. Sponsors of electioneering communications must electronically report expenditures within 24 hours of the communication being presented to the public. More information about independent ads and electioneering communications is available from the PDC.

## **Federal Campaigns**

Contributions to U.S. Senate and House of Representative candidates are regulated by federal law. An individual may contribute a maximum of \$2,300 in the primary and \$2,300 in the general election to each candidate for U.S. Senator and U.S. Representative. Corporations and unions are prohibited from contributing from their general treasury funds to federal campaigns. Contributions may be made from separate segregated funds (also called political action committees or PACs). Copies of the federal campaign finance reports are available from the Federal Elections Commission (FEC).

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## **Need More Information?**

Contact the Public Disclosure Commission at 711 Capitol Way, Room 206, PO Box 40908, Olympia, WA 98504-0908, or by phone (360) 753-1111, email [pdc@pdc.wa.gov](mailto:pdc@pdc.wa.gov), or [www.pdc.wa.gov](http://www.pdc.wa.gov). For federal campaigns, contact the Federal Elections Commission by phone at (202) 694-1100, toll-free (800) 424-9530, TDD/TTY (202) 219-3336, or visit [www.fec.gov](http://www.fec.gov).

## Washington State's 2008 Presidential Primary

On February 19, 2008, Washingtonians will play a role in nominating a candidate for this country's highest office. The 2008 Presidential Primary is a particularly rich opportunity. For the first time since 1952, the race for the White House is wide open without an incumbent president or vice president on the campaign trail.

Washington voters can observe presidential contenders in their own communities taking a stand on defining regional issues directly impacting the state of Washington such as the Hanford Nuclear Reservation, dams, international trade, the Bonneville Power Administration, national forests, as well as the military.

### History

In 1988, more than 200,000 Washington voters signed an initiative to the Legislature proposing a Presidential Primary. The Legislature adopted the initiative in 1989.

A Presidential Primary allows each Washington voter to participate in the nomination process; not just political party insiders who participate in the caucuses.

### The candidates listed on the Presidential Primary ballot

Only major political party candidates may appear on the Presidential Primary ballot. Candidates are placed on the ballot one of two ways:

- 1) By direction of the Secretary of State if the candidate is generally advocated or recognized in national news media; or
- 2) By petition, signed by at least 1,000 members of the political party.

### How the political parties will use the results of the Presidential Primary

Political parties retain the authority to decide if they will use the Presidential Primary to allocate delegates to the national nominating conventions. The political parties may also use caucus results, or a combination of primary results and caucus results.

The state Republican Party has decided that it will use the 2008 Presidential Primary to allocate 51 percent of its delegates. The remaining 49 percent of the delegates will be allocated based on caucus results. The state Democratic Party has decided to only use caucuses to allocate delegates in 2008.

## Major Political Party Caucuses and Conventions

### Major Political Party Caucuses

Candidates for most offices that appear in the general election are nominated in the state Primary. The office of President is an important exception to this rule. Candidates for President are nominated by the political parties at their national conventions. These nominations are based on the results of each state's Presidential Primary, party caucuses, or both.

The delegates to the national conventions are selected through precinct caucuses, county or legislative district conventions, and finally a state convention. Under national or state party rules, these national convention delegates may be bound or pledged to a particular candidate based on the number of votes that candidate received in the state's presidential primary or party caucuses.

The parties will invite voters to participate in the caucuses and will require participants to sign an oath declaring their party affiliation. The caucus is a neighborhood-level meeting open to all members of a particular political party. The Washington Democratic and Republican caucuses will be held on Saturday, February 9, 2008. Voters can participate in both the party caucuses and the Presidential Primary as long as they participate on behalf of the same party. In addition to the selection of delegates, participants have the opportunity to determine the party platform and resolutions, and meet party candidates for a variety of local, state and national offices. Each party will receive a list of voters who chose to affiliate with that party in the primary.

### Rules and Procedures

Each political party has the authority under the United States Constitution and state law to adopt rules to govern the delegate selection process and other party activities that occur in conjunction

with the caucuses and conventions. These party rules specify the number of delegates from each precinct to the county or legislative district convention, the number of delegates from each county or legislative district convention to the state convention, and the procedural rules for conducting the caucuses and conventions. A copy of the rules of either party should be available prior to the caucuses from the state committee of that party.

### Additional Information

The dates and locations of all party caucuses and conventions receive advance press coverage and are generally advertised by the parties. Specific questions about nominating procedures should be directed to the parties. The contact information for the two major political parties is:

#### Washington State Democratic Central Committee

PO Box 4027  
615 Second Avenue, Suite 580  
Seattle, WA 98194  
Phone: (206) 583-0664  
Fax: (206) 583-0301  
Website: [www.wa-democrats.org](http://www.wa-democrats.org)  
Email: [info@wa-democrats.org](mailto:info@wa-democrats.org)

#### Washington State Republican Party

16400 Southcenter Parkway, Suite 200  
Seattle, WA 98188  
Phone: (206) 575-2900  
Fax: (206) 575-1730  
Website: [www.wsrp.org](http://www.wsrp.org)  
Email: [comments@wsrp.org](mailto:comments@wsrp.org)

### Need More Information?

Individuals who are interested in participating in the caucus process should contact their Precinct Committee Officer, the chairperson of their County Central Committee or the state party headquarters for specific information.

## ***The Nomination Process for Independent and Minor Party Candidates***

This summary of the procedures governing the nomination of independent and minor party candidates is **NOT** meant to be inclusive. Persons interested in this procedure should review Chapter 29.24 of the Revised Code of Washington.

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### **Conventions**

An independent or minor party candidate for partisan office must begin the qualification process by holding a nominating convention anytime between the first Saturday in May and the second Saturday in May. Nomination conventions for candidates for President and Vice President may also be held between the first Saturday in June and the fourth Saturday in July.

At least ten days before the convention, a notice must be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the convention is to be held. The notice must list the date, time, and location of the convention, and the mailing address of the person or organization sponsoring the convention. The convention must be attended by at least 100 voters registered in the jurisdiction of the office.

### **Certificates of Nomination**

The convention must issue a certificate of nomination listing the candidates nominated and including the signatures of registered voters attending the convention. Candidates for President and Vice President, U.S. Senate, U.S. Representative, or a statewide office must gather the signatures of at least 1,000 voters registered in the state. The 1,000 signatures may be gathered at multiple conventions. Candidates for all other offices must submit the signatures of at least 100 voters registered in the jurisdiction of the office. The 100 signatures must be gathered at a single convention.

The certificate of nomination must include specific information required by law, such as the name, address, and office of each candidate nominated, the name of the minor party or independent candidate, and a sworn statement from candidates for President and Vice President, if there are any, giving their consent to the nomination.

### **Where to File the Certificate of Nomination**

The certificate must be filed with the appropriate filing officer no later than one week after the convention. Nominations for federal office, statewide office, or a legislative or judicial office that crosses county lines must be filed with the Office of the Secretary of State. Nominations for a legislative or judicial office that is within one county may be filed with either the Office of the Secretary of State or the county elections department. Nominations for all other partisan offices must be filed with the county elections department.

### **Verification of Signatures**

The filing officer must check the certificate and verify that the signatures on the nominating petition meet the requirements of state law. Prior to the regular candidate filing period, the Secretary of State must notify the county elections department of all minor party and independent candidates who have filed valid certificates of nomination with the Office of the Secretary of State.

### **Presidential Electors**

If the nomination is for candidates for President and Vice President, the convention must also submit a list of presidential electors to the Office of the Secretary of State no later than ten days after the convention.

### **Eligibility to File a Declaration of Candidacy**

If the filing officer determines that the certificate of nomination is valid, the minor party or independent candidate must file a declaration of candidacy and pay the filing fee during the regular filing period. The requirement to file a declaration of candidacy does not apply to candidates for President and Vice President.

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### **Need More Information?**

For forms and more information, contact the Office of the Secretary of State, 520 Union Avenue SE, PO Box 40229, Olympia, WA 98504-0229 or your county elections department. The phone numbers and addresses are listed in the back of this pamphlet.

# The Ballot Measure Process

The Washington State Constitution affords voters two basic methods of direct legislative power — the initiative and the referendum. While differing in process, both initiatives and referenda have the same effect of leaving the ultimate authority to legislate in the hands of the people.

## The Initiative

The initiative process is the direct power of the voters to enact new laws or change existing laws. It allows the electorate to petition to place proposed legislation on the ballot. The initiative's only limitation is that it cannot be used to amend the state constitution.

There are two types of initiatives:

 **Initiatives to the People** - Initiatives to the people, if certified to have sufficient signatures, are submitted for a vote of the people at the next state general election.

 **Initiatives to the Legislature** - Initiatives to the Legislature, if certified, are submitted to the Legislature at its regular session each January. Once submitted, the Legislature must take one of the following three actions:

- 1) Adopt the initiative as proposed, in which case it becomes law without a vote of the people;
- 2) Reject or refuse to act on the proposed initiative, in which case the initiative must be placed on the ballot at the next state general election; or
- 3) Approve an amended version of the proposed initiative, in which case both the amended version and the original version must be placed on the ballot at the next state general election.

Any registered voter, acting individually or on behalf of an organization, may propose an initiative to create a new state law or to amend or repeal an existing statute.

To certify an initiative (to the people or to the Legislature), the sponsor must circulate the complete text of the proposal among voters and obtain a number of legal voter signatures equal to 8 percent of the total number of votes cast for the office of Governor at the last regular gubernatorial election.

Initiative measures appearing on the ballot require a simple majority vote to become law (except for gambling or lottery measures which require 60 percent approval).

## The Referendum

Washington's referendum process is intended to give voters an opportunity to have the final say regarding laws either proposed or approved by the Legislature. The only acts that are exempt from the power of referendum are emergency laws — those that are necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health or safety, and the support of state government and its existing institutions.

There are two types of referenda:

 **Referendum Bills** - Referendum bills are proposed laws referred to the electorate by the Legislature.

 **Referendum Measures** - Referendum measures are laws recently passed by the Legislature that are placed on the ballot because of petitions signed by voters.

Any registered voter, acting individually or on behalf of an organization, may demand, by petition, that a law passed by the Legislature be referred to a vote of the electorate prior to its going into effect (emergency legislation is exempt from the referendum process — see above).

To certify a referendum measure to the ballot, the sponsor must circulate among voters the text of the legislative act to be referred, and obtain a number of legal voter signatures equal to 4 percent of the total number of votes cast for the office of Governor at the last regular gubernatorial election.

A referendum certified to the ballot must receive a simple majority vote to become law (except for gambling and lottery measures which require 60 percent approval).

**Please Note:** The preceding information is not intended as a substitute for the statutes governing the initiative and referendum processes, but rather should be read in conjunction with them. Relevant sections of law are found in Article 2, Section 1 of the Washington State Constitution, Chapter 29A.72 RCW and WAC 434-379. To access these sections online, visit the Code Reviser's website at [www1.leg.wa.gov/CodeReviser](http://www1.leg.wa.gov/CodeReviser).





# INITIATIVE MEASURE 960

Proposed by Initiative Petition

## *Official Ballot Title:*

Initiative Measure No. 960 concerns tax and fee increases imposed by state government.

This measure would require two-thirds legislative approval or voter approval for tax increases, legislative approval of fee increases, certain published information on tax-increasing bills, and advisory votes on taxes enacted without voter approval.

Should this measure be enacted into law?

Yes [ ] No [ ]

**Note:** The Official Ballot Title was written by the Attorney General as required by law. The Explanatory Statement was written by the Attorney General as required by law and revised by the court. The Fiscal Impact Statement was written by the Office of Financial Management. For more in-depth fiscal analysis, visit [www.ofm.wa.gov/initiatives](http://www.ofm.wa.gov/initiatives). The complete text of Initiative Measure 960 begins on page 24.



## *Fiscal Impact Statement*

### Summary of Fiscal Impact

Initiative 960 would result in added costs to prepare ten-year cost projections for proposed state tax and fee increases, to notify legislators and the public about proposed revenue legislation, and to conduct advisory votes on tax increases approved by the Legislature. Costs are estimated to be up to \$1.8 million a year, including \$1.2 million for local election expenses. Local government pays election costs in even-numbered years. The state pays a pro-rated share in odd-numbered years. Actual election costs for any particular year will depend on the number of tax measures referred to an advisory vote.

### Assumptions Supporting Fiscal Impact Statement

The Office of Financial Management (OFM) will need up to \$205,000 in the first year, and \$154,000 in subsequent years for computer system modifications and staff dedicated to new responsibilities, including:

- Determining which proposed legislation and fee increases require a ten-year cost projection.
- Conducting analysis of costs to taxpayers from tax and fee increases and/or obtaining such analysis from other state agencies with the appropriate expertise.
- Updating cost projections for legislative amendments to the original proposal.
- Reporting the results of the ten-year cost analyses to legislators, the media, and citizens.
- Notifying legislators, the media, and citizens when bills that raise taxes or fees are scheduled for a legislative committee hearing, pass a legislative committee, or pass one house of the Legislature.
- Maintaining a web site with cost and legislative contact information for each proposed tax or fee increase.

The Office of Financial Management will work with state agencies that collect revenue from tax or fee increases to obtain data on ten-year costs, which is expected to require up to \$280,000 per year for staff in the Department of Revenue and an indeterminate amount in other agencies. OFM will review agency projections prior to publication. State agencies will also have to identify all proposed fee increases that would be subject to legislative approval under Initiative 960, but the additional cost to do this cannot be determined.

It is assumed that the required ten-year cost projection will include an estimate of additional tax or fee revenue generated and state agency administrative expenses. Depending on the proposal, the projection may also include the additional amount of the tax or fee that is estimated to be paid by the average taxpayer.





# INITIATIVE MEASURE 960

## *Fiscal Impact Statement* (continued)

Although the exact number of advisory votes resulting from tax increases passed during any future legislative session cannot be predicted, state and local advisory election costs are assumed to be up to \$1.3 million, based on the assumptions below.

- **Local and State Government:** In printing official ballots, county auditors must provide a separate list with descriptions of any tax measures requiring an advisory vote of the people. Additional costs would be incurred if the number of measures increase the number of pages required for the ballot. One additional page, which could include several tax measures, would cost 37 cents (materials, production, and mailing). It is unknown how many counties would have to add pages to their ballots. If all counties add one page, the cost would be \$1.21 million for approximately 3.3 million ballots. Local government would pay this cost in even-numbered years.

The state reimburses counties for a pro-rated share of election costs in odd-numbered years when there are statewide measures on the ballot. Additional statewide advisory measures would result in more state costs.

Election costs would occur each year in which tax measures were referred for an advisory vote, but would vary based on the actual number of measures.

- **Secretary of State:** The Secretary of State will assign a serial number to each ballot measure, file the measure, and certify the measure for county auditors. It is estimated that the description, cost projection and legislator contact information for each ballot measure would require approximately four pages in the statewide voters' pamphlet, at a cost of \$94,000 (\$23,500 per page) for inclusion in 3.3 million pamphlets.

Initiative 960 requires a minimum of two pages in the voters' pamphlet for each tax source measure subject to an advisory vote. The need for an average four pages per measure is based on the following assumptions of space requirements: one-quarter page for the description of the measure; between one-half and one-and-one-half pages for the ten-year cost projection; and three pages for the contact information and voting record for all legislators.

- **Attorney General:** The Office of the Attorney General must identify tax legislation requiring an advisory vote and write a brief description of each measure. This cost is estimated at \$1,250 per ballot measure.

## *Explanatory Statement*

### **The law as it presently exists:**

An existing law states that the legislature may only take an action that raises state revenue if two-thirds of the members of each house of the legislature vote to do so. The same statute also states that if the action to increase revenue will result in expenditures that exceed the state expenditure limit, then the action to raise revenue will not take effect unless approved by a vote of the people. With limited exceptions, the state expenditure limit is the maximum amount that may be spent from the state general fund and related accounts in each fiscal year and is calculated using a formula based partly on average growth in personal income. The state expenditure limit is increased when the cost of a state program and related revenues are transferred to the general fund or a related account from another fund or account.

State law also authorizes some state agencies to charge various fees. Fees are different from taxes in that fees generally provide money to pay for specific services that the agency provides or to fulfill a particular regulatory purpose, while taxes ordinarily are designed to raise revenue for governmental services more generally. Where agencies are authorized to set fees, state law limits the size of any increase in fees during any fiscal year. Agencies are generally prohibited from raising any fee in any year by more than the rate of average growth in state personal income over the prior ten fiscal years. Greater increases require legislative approval.

State law establishes that the office of financial management is responsible for providing a fiscal note, which is a statement of fiscal impact, for all bills and resolutions which increase or decrease or tend to increase or decrease state government revenues or expenditures. A fiscal note indicates by fiscal year the impact for the remainder of the biennium in which the bill or resolution





# INITIATIVE MEASURE 960

## ***Explanatory Statement*** (continued)

### **The law as it presently exists:** (continued)

would take effect as well as the cumulative impact for the next four fiscal years. A completed fiscal note is filed immediately with designated legislative committees. Whenever possible, a fiscal note is provided prior to or at the time the bill or resolution to which it relates is first heard by the applicable legislative committee. A fiscal note remains attached to the bill or resolution throughout the legislative process whenever possible.

The state constitution requires that each house of the legislature maintain a journal of its proceedings. The state constitution also requires that the names of the members of the legislature voting for and against the final passage of a bill be entered in the journal.

The state constitution authorizes the legislature to refer legislative bills to the people for their approval or rejection at a general or special election. State law neither specifically authorizes nor specifically prohibits the use of non-binding advisory votes on legislative bills.

### **The effect of the proposed measure, if it becomes law:**

The measure applies to the existing requirement that any action taken by the legislature that “raises taxes” must be approved by a two-thirds vote. Specifically, the measure would clarify that the term “raises taxes” includes any legislative action that increases state tax revenue deposited in any fund, budget, or account, but does not include revenue neutral tax shifts. The measure would recognize that the legislature may, if it chooses, submit a tax increase to the voters for their approval or rejection in a referendum.

With limited exceptions, the measure would also require legislative approval for all new fees and fee increases. Agencies would no longer be authorized to increase fees by administrative action.

For any bill introduced in the legislature raising taxes or fees, the measure would require the office of financial management to promptly determine and provide to the public and members of the legislature a ten-year projection of its cost to taxpayers, including a yearly projection. The cost projection would be required for each revenue source in any such bill. The measure would require that the office of financial management report the cost projection analysis in a press release to be posted on its website, including the names and contact information for the sponsors and co-sponsors of any such bill. When a legislative committee schedules a public hearing for a bill raising taxes or fees, the measure would require the office of financial management to promptly report the most recent cost projection analysis and provide notice of the hearing to legislators, the media, and the public. When a bill raising taxes or fees is approved by a legislative committee or a majority of members of either house of the legislature, the measure would require the office of financial management to expeditiously update the cost projection and report the updated analysis to the legislature, the media and the public. The office of financial management would be required to prioritize the preparation of cost projection analyses and reporting and dissemination of cost projection information for bills raising taxes or fees. Such projections would take priority over producing fiscal notes. The measure would require that whenever possible, the cost projection analysis be provided, along with the fiscal notes, prior to or at the time the bill or resolution is first heard by the applicable legislative committee. As with fiscal notes, the cost projection analysis for bills increasing taxes or fees would be attached to the bill or resolution throughout the legislative process insofar as possible.

The measure would eliminate the current allowance for an increase in the state expenditure limit when the cost of a state program and related revenue are shifted to the general fund or a related fund from another fund or account if the revenue previously had been shifted from the general fund or a related fund.

The measure would require an advisory vote of the people to be placed on the next general election ballot if legislative action raising taxes is not subject to a referendum vote. If such legislative action involves more than one revenue source, the measure requires that each tax increase would be subject to a separate advisory vote of the people. The measure would not require an advisory vote of the people if legislative action raising taxes is otherwise subject to a vote of the people.

In order to implement the advisory vote, the measure would require the attorney general to determine legislative action that is subject to an advisory vote, send written notice to the secretary of state, and formulate a short description of each advisory vote measure. The measure would require county auditors to print advisory vote measures and their short description on the official ballots under a separate heading on the ballot entitled “Advisory Vote of the People.” The measure would also require the general election voters’ pamphlet to contain certain information about each advisory vote appearing on the ballot, including the short description written by the attorney general, the most recent ten-year cost projection analysis, each legislator’s vote on final passage of the tax increase, and contact information for each legislator.



## ***Statement For Initiative Measure 960***

### **I-960 CLOSES LOOPHOLES THE LEGISLATURE PUT IN TAXPAYER PROTECTION INITIATIVE 601, VOTER-APPROVED IN 1993**

I-601 put reasonable limits on state government's fiscal policies. But over the years, Olympia has put loophole after loophole into it to circumvent the law. I-960 closes those loopholes.

In 2005, the Court ruled the Legislature broke the law by shifting funds to spend the same money twice. Justice Owens called it "a shell game." Incredibly, Olympia defended itself saying I-601 DIDN'T SPECIFICALLY PROHIBIT THEM FROM SPENDING THE SAME MONEY TWICE! I-960 says shifted money isn't new revenue and can only be spent once.

For 13 years, the law has required two-thirds legislative approval for tax increases. The Legislature re-enacted this two-thirds requirement in 1998 and 2005. But to circumvent the law, Olympia takes tax increases off-budget. I-960 says Olympia must follow the law whether the tax increase is off-budget or on-budget.

No one is above the law, not even the Legislature.

### **TO CIRCUMVENT OUR CONSTITUTION AND REPEAL OUR RIGHTS,**

### **OLYMPIA DECLARES A BILL AN "EMERGENCY"**

I-960 alerts voters anytime Olympia imposes an "emergency" tax increase with two-pages in the general election voters pamphlet listing the costs, how legislators voted, and provides voter feedback with an advisory vote. We can't stop politicians from repealing our constitutionally-guaranteed rights, but we're entitled to know which politicians are doing it.

I-960 helps Olympia follow the law and respect our Constitution.

### **I-960 REQUIRES THE GOVERNMENT TO PUBLICLY DISCLOSE COSTS AND LEGISLATORS' SPONSORSHIP AND VOTING RECORDS ON ...**

... any tax increase bill. I-960 guarantees email updates get sent to the press and the people anytime a tax increase bill "moves." The people have the right to know what Olympia is doing.

### **WASHINGTON'S THE 9<sup>TH</sup> HIGHEST TAXED STATE IN THE NATION – I-960 KEEPS US FROM HITTING #1**

I-960 reminds politicians that taxpayers don't have bottomless wallets. Vote Yes.

For more information, call (425) 493-8707 or visit [www.TheTaxpayerProtectionInitiative.com](http://www.TheTaxpayerProtectionInitiative.com).

## ***Rebuttal of Statement Against***

Opponents' threats, lies, and scare tactics are hilarious (terrorist attacks? recession? flu?).

Washington has 13 years of positive experience with I-601 (Colorado's totally different).

I-960's protections affect tax increases, not fund transfers.

Government collects over \$50 BILLION EVERY YEAR. Even without tax hikes, revenue grows. If prioritized, that's more than enough.

Send politicians a message: stop declaring "emergencies" – they short-circuit our rights. Stop breaking the law.

Approve I-960 because politicians can't control themselves. Vote Yes.

### ***Voters' Pamphlet Argument Prepared by:***

ERMA TURNER, beauty shop owner, gathered 3,455 signatures, Cle Elum; STEVEN BENCZE, retired warehouseman, fisherman/hunter, gathered 2,461 signatures, Othello; ERIC PHILLIPS, hiker, label company owner, gathered 2,348 signatures, Everett; KAREN CURRY, housewife, husband Lee (plumber), gathered 2,172 signatures, Yakima; ANDRE GARIN, retired postal worker, bowler, gathered 1,989 signatures, Vancouver; MIKE DUNMIRE, husband, community leader, retired businessman, initiative volunteer, Woodinville.

## ***Statement Against Initiative Measure 960***

All of us want greater accountability and openness from government. Initiative 960 pretends to do that, but will only make things worse.

### **I-960 WILL LEAD TO ENDLESS, EXPENSIVE ELECTIONS.**

I-960 would require a public vote on countless budget items, no matter how small. The result? Less efficient government, long and confusing ballots, and millions of dollars wasted on endless elections.

### **I-960 WILL MAKE GOVERNMENT LESS EFFICIENT.**

Routine fund transfers to address basic needs, such as road and bridge repairs, children's health care, or prescription drug assistance for seniors would require a two-thirds legislative vote *and* a public vote. This could cripple state government.

When a similar measure was enacted in Colorado, nonpartisan analysis revealed education funding dropped from 35<sup>th</sup> in the nation to 49<sup>th</sup>, child immunization rates fell to dead last among the 50 states, and prenatal care fell from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 48<sup>th</sup>. This must not happen in Washington State.

### **I-960 WILL NOT CUT TAXES, BUT IT WILL WASTE YOUR MONEY.**

More elections and longer ballots are expensive to administer and process. Sorting out the many legal issues created by I-960's confusing and poorly written language will tie up the courts, costing taxpayers time and money.

### **I-960 WILL SLOW GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE, EVEN IN A CRISIS.**

The initiative would leave us vulnerable in times of crisis. I-960 says the legislature can suspend supermajority legislative and public votes only during a natural disaster. Authorities would be handcuffed from responding quickly during an economic recession, pandemic flu, or even terrorist attacks.

I-960 is too risky and too expensive. Join police, firefighters, teachers, nurses, Children's Alliance, Washington Association of Churches, Washington Conservation Voters, Washington State Labor Council, business and citizens across Washington in voting *No on 960*.

For more information, call (206) 501-4342 or visit [www.no960.com](http://www.no960.com).

## ***Rebuttal of Statement For***

I-960 mandates wasteful, costly elections and would create mass confusion—not transparency and accountability. Dozens of complicated votes would only get 13-word descriptions. (Sec. 8)

I-960 is so complex even sponsor Tim Eyman admitted: "You asked for a short description of 960, I just can't give it to you." (Crosscut 8/13/07)

I-960 cannot be suspended due to a terrorist attack or economic crisis – only for a "natural disaster." (Sec. 5.3(a))

Vote NO on I-960.

### ***Voters' Pamphlet Argument Prepared by:***

RANDY REVELLE, Senior Vice President, Washington State Hospital Association; DOUG SHADEL, Director, AARP of Washington; JUDY HUNTINGTON, RN, Executive Director, Washington State Nurses Association; MIKE RAGAN, Kennewick High School teacher, WEA Vice President; MICHELLE MOULTON, M+M Painting, small business owner, Sammamish; KELLY FOX, President, Washington State Council of Firefighters.



# REFERENDUM MEASURE 67

Passed by the Legislature and Ordered Referred by Petition

## Official Ballot Title:

The legislature passed Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5726 (ESSB 5726) concerning insurance fair conduct related to claims for coverage or benefits and voters have filed a sufficient referendum petition on this bill.

This bill would make it unlawful for insurers to unreasonably deny certain coverage claims, and permit treble damages plus attorney fees for that and other violations. Some health insurance carriers would be exempt.

Should this bill be:

Approved [ ] Rejected [ ]

### Votes cast by the 2007 Legislature on final passage:

Senate: Yeas, 31; Nays, 18; Absent, 0; Excused, 0.

House: Yeas, 59; Nays, 38; Absent, 0; Excused, 1.

**Note:** The Official Ballot Title was written by the court. The Explanatory Statement was written by the Attorney General as required by law and revised by the court. The Fiscal Impact Statement was written by the Office of Financial Management. For more in-depth fiscal analysis, visit [www.ofm.wa.gov/initiatives](http://www.ofm.wa.gov/initiatives). The complete text of Referendum Measure 67 begins on page 29.



## Fiscal Impact Statement

### Fiscal Impact Statement for Referendum 67

Referendum 67 is a referendum on ESSB 5726, a bill that would prohibit insurers from unreasonably denying certain insurance claims, permitting recovery up to triple damages plus attorney fees and litigation costs. This may increase frequency and amounts of insurance claims recovered by state and local government, the number of insurance-related suits filed in state courts, and increase state and local government insurance-premiums. Research offers no clear guidance for estimating the magnitude of these potential increases. Notice of insurance-related suits must be provided to the Office of the Insurance Commissioner prior to court filing, costing an estimated \$50,000 per year.

### Assumptions for Fiscal Analysis of R-67

- There would likely be an increase in the number of cases filed in Superior Court related to the denial of insurance claims, but there is no data available to provide an accurate estimate of that fiscal impact. It is assumed that the impact to the operations of Washington courts would be greater than \$50,000 per year.
- Premiums for state and local governments that purchase auto, property, liability or other insurance may increase due to a potential increase in insurance companies' litigation costs and the amounts awarded to claimants.
- When the state or local government is a claimant, the referendum could increase the likelihood of recovering on the claim, and the amount recovered.
- Various studies have been conducted to determine how changes in law affecting insurance can affect costs for courts, insurance premiums, and claimant recovery. However, individual study results vary widely. Due to the conflicting research, there is no clear guidance for estimating the magnitude of the fiscal impact of potential increases in court costs, insurance premiums, or recovered claims.
- It is estimated that 300 notices per year of insurance-related lawsuits would be filed with the Office of the Insurance Commissioner, resulting in a minimum cost of less than \$50,000 per year increased cost to the agency.





# REFERENDUM MEASURE 67

## *Explanatory Statement*

### **The law as it presently exists:**

The state insurance code prohibits any person engaged in the insurance business from engaging in unfair methods of competition or in unfair or deceptive acts or practices in the conduct of their business. Some of these practices are set forth in state statute. The insurance commissioner has the authority to adopt rules defining unfair practices beyond those specified in statute. The commissioner has the authority to order any violators to cease and desist from their unfair practices, and to take action under the insurance code against violators for violation of statutes and regulations. Depending on the facts, the insurance commissioner could impose fines, seek injunctive relief, or take action to revoke an insurer's authority to conduct insurance business in this state.

Under existing law, an unfair denial of a claim against an insurance policy could give the claimant a legal action against the insurance company under one or more of several legal theories. These could include violation of the insurance code, violation of the consumer protection laws, personal injuries or property losses caused by the insurer's acts, or breach of contract. Depending on the facts and the legal basis for recovery, a claimant could recover money damages for the losses shown to have been caused by the defendant's behavior. Additional remedies might be available, depending on the legal basis for the claim.

Plaintiffs in Washington are not generally entitled to recover their attorney fees or litigation costs (except for small amounts set by state law) unless there is a specific statute, a contract provision, or recognized ground in case law providing for such recovery. Disputes over insurance coverage have been recognized in case law as permitting awards of attorney fees and costs. Likewise, plaintiffs in Washington are not generally entitled to collect punitive damages or damages in excess of their actual loss (such as double or triple the amount of actual loss), unless a statute or contract specifically provides for such payment.

### **The effect of the proposed measure, if approved:**

This measure is a referral to the people of a bill (ESSB 5726) passed by the 2007 session of the legislature. The term "this bill" refers here to the bill as passed by the legislature. **A vote to "approve" this bill is a vote to approve ESSB 5726 as passed by the legislature. A vote to "reject" this bill is a vote to reject ESSB 5726 as passed by the legislature.**

ESSB 5726 would amend the laws concerning unfair or deceptive insurance practices by providing that an insurer engaged in the business of insurance may not unreasonably deny a claim for coverage or payment of benefits to any "first party claimant." The term "first party claimant" is defined in the bill to mean an individual, corporation, association, partnership, or other legal entity asserting a right to payment as a covered person under an insurance policy or insurance contract arising out of the occurrence of the contingency or loss covered by such a policy or contract.

ESSB 5726 would authorize any first party claimant to bring a lawsuit in superior court against an insurer for unreasonably denying a claim for coverage or payment of benefits, or violation of specified insurance commissioner unfair claims handling practices regulations, to recover damages and reasonable attorney fees, and litigation costs. A successful plaintiff could recover the actual damages sustained, together with reasonable attorney fees and litigation costs as determined by the court. The court could also increase the total award of damages to an amount not exceeding three times the actual damages, if the court finds that an insurer has acted unreasonably in denying a claim or has violated certain rules adopted by the insurance commissioner. The new law would not limit a court's existing ability to provide other remedies available at law. The claimant would be required to give written notice to the insurer and to the insurance commissioner's office at least twenty days before filing the lawsuit.

ESSB 5726 would not apply to a health plan offered by a health carrier as defined in the insurance code. The term "health carrier" includes a disability insurer, a health care service contractor, or a health maintenance organization as those terms are defined in the insurance code. The term "health plan" means any policy, contract, or agreement offered by a health carrier to provide or pay for health care services, with certain exceptions set forth in the insurance code. These exceptions include, among other things, certain supplemental coverage, disability income, workers' compensation coverage, "accident only" coverage, "dental only" and "vision only" coverage, and plans which have a short-term limited purpose or duration. Because these types of coverage fall outside the definition of "health plan," ESSB 5726's provision would apply to these exceptions to "health plans."



## ***Statement For Referendum Measure 67***

### **APPROVE 67 – MAKE THE INSURANCE INDUSTRY TREAT ALL CONSUMERS FAIRLY.**

Referendum 67 simply requires the Insurance Industry to be fair and pay legitimate claims in a reasonable and timely manner. Without R-67, there is no penalty when insurers delay or deny valid claims. R-67 would help make the Insurance Industry honor its commitments by making it against the law to unreasonably delay or deny legitimate claims.

### **APPROVE 67 – RIGHT NOW, THERE IS NO PENALTY FOR DELAYING OR DENYING YOUR VALID CLAIM.**

R-67 encourages the Insurance Industry to treat legitimate insurance claims fairly. R-67 allows the court to assess penalties if an insurance company illegally delays or denies payment of a legitimate claim.

### **APPROVE 67 – YOU PAY FOR INSURANCE. THEY SHOULD KEEP THEIR PROMISES.**

When you pay your premiums on time, the Insurance Industry is supposed to pay your legitimate claims. Unfortunately, the Insurance Industry sometimes puts profits ahead of people and intentionally delays or denies valid claims. R-67 makes the Insurance Industry keep its promises and pay legitimate claims on time. That is why the Insurance Industry is spending millions of dollars to defeat it.

### **APPROVE 67 – JOIN BIPARTISAN OFFICIALS AND CONSUMER GROUPS SUPPORTING FAIR TREATMENT BY THE INSURANCE INDUSTRY.**

Insurance Commissioner Mike Kriedler, former Insurance Commissioners, seniors, workers, and consumer groups urge you to approve R-67. Supporters include the Puget Sound Alliance of Senior Citizens, former Republican Party State Chair Dale Foreman, the Labor Council, and the Fraternal Order of Police.

### **APPROVE 67 – R-67 SIMPLY MAKES SURE CLAIMS ARE HANDLED FAIRLY.**

If the Insurance Industry honors its commitments, R-67 does not impose any new requirements – other than making sure all claims are handled fairly. R-67 would have an impact only on those bad apples that unreasonably delay or deny valid insurance claims.

For more information, visit [www.approve67.org](http://www.approve67.org).

### ***Rebuttal of Statement Against***

Washington is one of only 5 states with no penalty when the Insurance Industry intentionally denies a valid claim. That is why the Insurance Industry is spending millions to defeat R67. Referendum 67 is only on the ballot because the Insurance Industry used its special-interest influence to block it from becoming law. Now you can vote to *approve* R67 to make fair treatment by the Insurance Industry the law. Approve R67 for Insurance Fairness.

#### ***Voters' Pamphlet Argument Prepared by:***

STEVE KIRBY, Chair, House Insurance, Financial Services, Consumer Protection Committee; TOM CAMPBELL, Chair, House Environmental Health Committee; DIANE SOSNE, RN, President SEIU 1199; SKIP DREPS, Government Relations Director Northwest Paralyzed Veterans; KELLY FOX, President, Washington State Council of Firefighters; STEVE DZIELAK, Director, Alliance for Retired Americans.

## ***Statement Against Referendum Measure 67***

### **REJECT FRIVOLOUS LAWSUITS. REJECT HIGHER INSURANCE RATES. REJECT R-67.**

As if there weren't enough frivolous lawsuits jacking up insurance rates, Washington's trial lawyers have invented yet another way to file more lawsuits to fatten their pocketbooks. They wrote and pushed a law through the Legislature that permits trial lawyers to threaten insurance companies with *triple damages* to force unreasonable settlements that will *increase insurance rates for all consumers*. The trial lawyers also included a provision that *guarantees payment of attorneys' fees*, sweetening the incentive to file frivolous lawsuits. There's no limit on the fees they can charge. What does this mean for consumers? You guessed it: *higher insurance rates*.

### **TRIAL LAWYERS WIN. CONSUMERS LOSE.**

R-67 is a *windfall for trial lawyers* at the expense of consumers. Trial lawyers backed a similar law in California, but the resulting explosion of fraudulent claims and frivolous lawsuits caused auto insurance prices to increase 48% more than the national average (according to a national actuarial study) and *it was later repealed*.

### **CURRENT LAW PROTECTS CONSUMERS.**

Insurance companies have a legal responsibility to treat people fairly, and *consumers can sue insurance companies under current law* if they believe their claim was handled improperly. The Insurance Commissioner can—and does—levy stiff fines, or even ban an insurance company from the state, if the company mistreats consumers.

### **R-67 IS BAD NEWS FOR CONSUMERS. REJECT R-67.**

Not only does R-67 raise auto and homeowners insurance rates, it applies to small businesses and doctors as well. That means *higher medical bills and higher prices for goods and services*.

Laws should reduce frivolous lawsuits, not create more. Reject R-67!

See for yourself. Visit [www.REJECT67.org](http://www.REJECT67.org).

### ***Rebuttal of Statement For***

Don't be fooled.

Trial lawyers didn't push this law through the legislature to protect *your* rights. They want this law because it gives them new opportunities to file *frivolous lawsuits* and collect *fat lawyers' fees*.

Trial lawyers don't care if frivolous lawsuits jack up our insurance rates. *Consumers, doctors and small businesses will pay more* so trial lawyers can file more lawsuits and collect larger fees.

Reject frivolous lawsuits and excessive lawyers' fees. Reject 67.

#### ***Voters' Pamphlet Argument Prepared by:***

W. HUGH MALONEY, M.D., President, Washington State Medical Association; DON BRUNELL, President, Association of Washington Business; RICHARD BIGGS, President, Professional Insurance Agents of Washington; DANA CHILDERS, Executive Director, Liability Reform Coalition; TROY NICHOLS, Washington State Director, National Federation of Independent Business; BILL GARRITY, President, Washington Construction Industry Council.



ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE

# SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 8206

Proposed to the People by the Legislature  
Amendment to the State Constitution

## *Official Ballot Title:*

The legislature has proposed a constitutional amendment on establishment of a budget stabilization account.

This amendment would require the legislature to transfer 1% of general state revenues to a budget stabilization account each year and prohibit expenditures from the account except as set forth in the amendment.

Should this constitutional amendment be:

Approved [ ] Rejected [ ]

### **Votes cast by the 2007 Legislature on final passage:**

Senate: Yeas, 45; Nays, 3; Absent, 0; Excused, 1.

House: Yeas, 74; Nays, 23; Absent, 0; Excused, 1.

**Note:** The Official Ballot Title and Explanatory Statement were written by the Attorney General as required by law. The complete text of Engrossed Substitute Senate Joint Resolution 8206 begins on page 31.

## *Explanatory Statement*

### **The constitutional provision as it presently exists:**

The state constitution currently does not require a budget stabilization account. State statutes, however, currently establish an “emergency reserve fund.” Under these statutes, the state treasurer is directed to transfer to the emergency reserve fund in each fiscal year a portion of revenues that exceed the “state expenditure limit.” With limited exceptions, the state expenditure limit is the maximum amount that may be spent from the state general fund and certain other accounts in each fiscal year and is calculated based, in part, on growth in personal income. Under these statutes, money may be spent from the emergency reserve fund only with the approval of two-thirds of the members of each house of the legislature, and only if total expenditures would not exceed the state expenditure limit. Under existing statutes, if the balance of the emergency reserve fund exceeds 5% of annual state general fund revenues, then 75% of any balance over that amount shall be transferred to the student achievement fund, earmarked for certain education purposes, and 25% shall be transferred to the general fund.

The legislature may amend or repeal statutes generally and accordingly, may amend or repeal statutes relating to the emergency reserve fund.

### **The effect of the proposed amendment, if it is approved:**

If approved, this amendment would add a new provision to the state constitution establishing a budget stabilization account in the state treasury. The legislature would be authorized to enact laws to carry out the purposes of this amendment. The constitutional amendment would require that 1% of “general state revenue” for each fiscal year be transferred into the budget stabilization account. “General state revenue” means all state money received in the treasury, with certain exceptions that include money from the ownership or operation of any facility, undertaking, or project; money received for restricted purposes; and money received from the sale of bonds. The legislature could appropriate additional amounts into the budget stabilization account if it so chooses.

The constitutional amendment would permit money to be appropriated from the budget stabilization account only in four circumstances. First, if the governor declares a state of emergency resulting from a catastrophic event that makes action by government necessary to protect life or public safety, then by a majority vote of each house of the legislature, money could be appropriated from the account to respond to that emergency. Second, if the official forecast for job growth in the state for any fiscal year is estimated to be less than 1%, then for that fiscal year, money could be appropriated from the account by a majority vote of each house of the legislature. Third, the legislature could appropriate money from the account at any time by favorable vote of at least three-fifths (60%) of the members of each house of the legislature. Fourth, if the balance in the budget stabilization account exceeds 10% of estimated general state revenues for that fiscal year, then by majority vote of each house, the legislature could appropriate any amount that exceeds 10% of estimated general state revenues, but solely for deposit in the education construction fund. Under existing statutes, unless approved by two-thirds majority of the legislature and the voters, funds in the education construction account may be appropriated only for common school and higher education construction.

Under laws enacted by the legislature that would go into effect on July 1, 2008, and only if this proposed constitutional amendment is approved, the emergency reserve account statute would be repealed, and funds remaining in that account would be transferred to the budget stabilization account. 

## ***Statement For ESSJR 8206***

### **ESSJR 8206: WASHINGTON SHOULD SAVE FOR RAINY DAYS**

Feast or famine? Washington's economy is sometimes up and sometimes down. Unexpected dips in state revenues from a down economy can force the legislature to either raise taxes or cut critical services just when they are needed most.

### **PREVENT TAX INCREASES AND PROTECT VITAL SERVICES**

The Rainy Day Fund is a simple idea, recommended by the bipartisan Gates Tax Commission to save money during the good times so we are prepared for the bad.

Every year 1% of state revenues are automatically put into the fund.

Until the fund reaches 10% of state revenues, the money can only be spent when the economy declines seriously, as it did after 9/11, or if there is a catastrophic emergency requiring immediate action.

If other unforeseen circumstances come up, a 60% majority of the legislature can approve releases.

The spending rules are enforced by the Constitution, making the savings account more secure.

### **OVERWHELMING BIPARTISAN SUPPORT**

The bill introducing this amendment was proposed by Governor Gregoire and approved by overwhelming bipartisan majorities in both the House and Senate.

### **REQUIRE OLYMPIA TO BUDGET LIKE WASHINGTON FAMILIES**

Families prepare for rainy days. State government should do the same.

Vote YES on ESSJR 8206!

### ***Rebuttal of Statement Against***

Past responses to economic downturns illustrate the need for a rainy day fund.

After 9/11, cuts to education and health care for the needy.

In the early 1990s, a \$1 billion tax increase.

In the early 1980s, a sales tax on food.

*ESSJR 8206 would help prevent this in the future.* It would set money aside during good times for use in bad times, thereby avoiding tax increases and protecting critical services.

Please vote Yes.

#### ***Voters' Pamphlet Argument Prepared by:***

ROSS HUNTER, State Representative, Chairman, Finance Committee; LISA BROWN, State Senator, Majority Leader; JOSEPH ZARELLI, State Senator, Ranking Member, Ways and Means Committee; GARY ALEXANDER, State Representative, Ranking Member, Appropriations Committee; HUGH SPITZER, public finance lawyer and law professor.

## ***Statement Against ESSJR 8206***

### **PROPOSED STABILIZATION ACCOUNT VOTE RESTRICTS CRITICAL DECISIONS.**

This proposal restricts the legislature's ability to make critical decisions by requiring a "super majority" vote for expenditures from the stabilization account. It would allow a small minority to block decisions by the majority and would apply even in critical areas such as spending for education and health care. It violates our long-standing practice of majority decision making. Exceptions are made only for a state of emergency or very low employment growth.

### **YOU CAN'T PREDICT THE FUTURE.**

This resolution fails to look forward. We can never predict what will happen. A major earthquake might bring consensus to legislators from different parties – but what about cuts from the federal government or a crashing economy? Partisan politics may stop access to needed funds.

Unlike the U.S. Congress, our state must pass a balanced budget. Many programs necessary for the success of our children are now the state's responsibility. Let's not handcuff ourselves – restricting our ability to react to growing and unexpected needs.

### **ESSJR 8206 COULD HURT OUR SCHOOLS AND ESSENTIAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES.**

Even when the state's economy is struggling, ESSJR 8206 will restrict our ability to react. Funds that may be needed to keep our schools afloat, assist our seniors, or stimulate the economy won't be available. We need stability – not politics.

### **VOTE NO ON ESSJR 8206.**

Vote NO on ESSJR 8206 and keep politics out of our State's Constitution.

### ***Rebuttal of Statement For***

A constitutional rainy day fund is a simplistic temporary crutch to address potential budget problems.

It delays permanent solutions to our state's real budget problems.

As the revenue builds, it serves as a tempting source to fund programs through the initiative process.

A rainy day fund will be difficult to access in cases where spending is critical.

Vote NO on ESSJR 8206 to protect our schools and essential government services and to protect our Constitution.

#### ***Voters' Pamphlet Argument Prepared by:***

HELEN SOMMERS, State Representative, Chair, Appropriations Committee; KEN JACOBSEN, State Senator, Chair, Natural Resources, Ocean, Recreation Committee; SAM HUNT, State Representative, Chair, State Government, Tribal Affairs Committee; JEANNE KOHL-WELLES, State Senator, Chair, Labor, Commerce, Research, Development Committee; RUTH KAGI, State Representative, Chair, Early Learning, Children's Services Committee; JIM MOELLER, State Representative, Co-chair, Joint Committee Veterans, Military Affairs.



# SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 8212

Proposed to the People by the Legislature  
Amendment to the State Constitution

## *Official Ballot Title:*

The legislature has proposed a constitutional amendment on inmate labor.

This amendment would authorize state-operated inmate labor programs and programs in which inmate labor is used by private entities through state contracts, and prohibit privately operated programs from unfairly competing with Washington businesses.

Should this constitutional amendment be:

Approved [ ] Rejected [ ]

### **Votes cast by the 2007 Legislature on final passage:**

Senate: Yeas, 49; Nays, 0; Absent, 0; Excused, 0.

House: Yeas, 83; Nays, 15; Absent, 0; Excused, 0.

**Note:** The Official Ballot Title and Explanatory Statement were written by the Attorney General as required by law. The complete text of Senate Joint Resolution 8212 begins on page 31.

## *Explanatory Statement*

### **The constitutional provision as it presently exists:**

Article II, section 29, of the State Constitution currently requires the legislature to “provide for the working of convicts for the benefit of the state.” The same section also provides that the labor of convicts “shall not be let out by contract” to private persons or entities. The State Supreme Court has construed this provision to permit state-run labor programs in prisons, but to prohibit the state from contracting with private for-profit or nonprofit entities to operate inmate labor programs in which inmates provide labor for the private entity.

Under current law, therefore, the state is required to provide for inmate labor for the benefit of the state, but the legislature may do so only through programs operated by the state. The legislature is prohibited from authorizing inmate labor programs under which private businesses or other private entities make use of inmate labor, operating through contracts with the state.

### **The effect of the proposed amendment, if it is approved:**

If enacted, this amendment would authorize the legislature to provide for inmate labor programs operated directly by the state, and for programs under which private businesses or other private entities operate in a correctional facility, making use of inmate labor through contracts with the state. The amendment would provide that inmate labor programs operated by private entities shall not unfairly compete with Washington business, as determined by law. The term “convicts” would be changed to “inmates” in this provision.

If this amendment is enacted, the legislature would continue to be obligated to provide for inmate labor programs for the benefit of the state, but would be permitted to include programs established by contract with the state under which private entities use inmate labor, as well as programs operated directly by the state.



## ***Statement For SJR 8212***

We believe offenders should not just sit idle while they serve their time in state prison. They should work to reduce their burden on taxpayers by paying room and board, crime victim's compensation, court costs and any child support they might owe. One sure way to accomplish this is to allow private, for-profit or nonprofit businesses to employ offenders in our prisons, without putting the public's safety at risk.

Offenders working promotes safety both inside and outside our prisons. It keeps them busy while incarcerated. Work permitted under this constitutional amendment has been scientifically shown to reduce recidivism of offenders who are released. This will not only save taxpayers money but it will prevent future victimization. Reducing recidivism is at the heart of the bipartisan Offender Reentry Initiative signed into law this year.

The work allowed by this constitutional amendment had been available in our prisons, providing these benefits, for more than 20 years. In fact, in 2004, when legislation reauthorized and set new goals for Class I work, both business and labor agreed to noncompetition provisions in legislation, which the Legislature then enacted unanimously. But a technical Supreme Court ruling eliminated the work in 2004. This is why we are bringing this constitutional amendment to the public, to restore the benefits to the citizens of Washington this work can provide.

For more information, call (360) 457-2520.

### ***Rebuttal of Statement Against***

In addition to punishment, the most important purpose of our criminal justice system is to provide justice for victims. If SJR 8212 fails, victims will have to wait much longer, even decades, before receiving just compensation.

SJR 8212 requires that state law prevent unfair competition. Current law, enacted unanimously in 2004, already prohibits unfair competition, defines what unfair competition is and outlines detailed requirements that must be followed before any work will be approved.

#### ***Voters' Pamphlet Argument Prepared by:***

JIM HARGROVE, State Senator, 24<sup>th</sup> Legislative District; MIKE CARRELL, State Senator, 28<sup>th</sup> Legislative District; AL O'BRIEN, State Representative, 1<sup>st</sup> Legislative District; JERALITA "JERI" COSTA, former Washington State Senator; DONALD G. PIERCE, Executive Director, Washington Association, Sheriffs and Police Chiefs.

## ***Statement Against SJR 8212***

### **JUSTICE SYSTEM IS IN PLACE TO DISPENSE PUNISHMENT**

The criminal justice system is in place to dispense justice and punishment for crimes committed against society. While education and job training can prepare felons for a successful return to the community, it should not be to the detriment of law-abiding citizens competing for jobs or local businesses competing in the marketplace.

### **SJR 8212 TAKES JOBS FROM PRIVATE WORKERS**

Proposed positions for inmates incarcerated in state correctional facilities are highly desired labor positions. These jobs should go to private workers outside prison walls who choose to live according to the rules.

### **NO ASSURANCE PRIVATE WORKERS WON'T BE NEGATIVELY IMPACTED**

There are no guarantees SJR 8212 won't create unfair competition for Washington jobs and businesses. This is why unfair inmate labor was prohibited in the Constitution in the first place. SJR 8212 is a clear attempt to undo these constitutional protections for the workers and businesses of this state.

Government should create additional job opportunities for all Washingtonians, not focus a disproportionate share of its efforts on the inmate labor force.

SJR 8212 merely states that inmate labor programs may not unfairly compete with Washington businesses. It doesn't indicate how it will accomplish this goal. Without specific language in place outlining a clear plan, local businesses will be impacted by inmate work programs and law-abiding citizens seeking employment will be displaced by inmate laborers.

### **SJR 8212 IS UNNECESSARY**

Preparing felons to return to the community with job skills can be accomplished through existing vocational training and educational programs that provide inmates future employment opportunities while not unfairly competing with local businesses, wrongfully displacing local workers, and negatively impacting local economies.

### ***Rebuttal of Statement For***

Offenders shouldn't sit idle in prison. However, taking jobs from law-abiding citizens isn't the answer. Supporters of SJR 8212 say work inside prison reduces recidivism. But are recidivism rates lowered enough to amend our Constitution? There is no answer to this question. Government should never compete with business. SJR 8212 takes jobs from private workers and gives them to prisoners without any mechanism to monitor whether local businesses and workers are negatively impacted.

#### ***Voters' Pamphlet Argument Prepared by:***

LYNN SCHINDLER, State Representative, 4<sup>th</sup> Legislative District; LARRY CROUSE, State Representative, 4<sup>th</sup> Legislative District.



ENGROSSED

# HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 4204

Proposed to the People by the Legislature  
Amendment to the State Constitution

## *Official Ballot Title:*

The legislature has proposed a constitutional amendment on school district tax levies.

This amendment would provide for approval of school district excess property tax levies by simple majority vote of participating voters, and would eliminate supermajority approval requirements based on voter turnout in previous elections.

Should this constitutional amendment be:

Approved [ ] Rejected [ ]

**Votes cast by the 2007 Legislature on final passage:**  
Senate: Yeas, 33; Nays, 16; Absent, 0; Excused, 0.  
House: Yeas, 79; Nays, 19; Absent, 0; Excused, 0.

**Note:** The Official Ballot Title and Explanatory Statement were written by the Attorney General as required by law. The complete text of Engrossed House Joint Resolution 4204 begins on page 32.

## *Explanatory Statement*

### **The constitutional provision as it presently exists:**

The State Constitution (Article 7, section 2) generally limits state and local property taxes in any one year to a total not exceeding one percent (1%) of the true and fair money value of the property being taxed, unless that limit is exceeded for certain local taxing districts in the manner described in the Constitution. Levies exceeding the 1% limitation are commonly called “excess levies.”

Most local government bodies, including school districts, may exceed the 1% limitation only with voter approval at an excess levy election where the vote satisfies one of two requirements. (1) If the number of voters who vote in the excess levy election exceeds 40% of the number who voted in the last general election in the district, then the excess levy is approved if at least 60% vote “yes.” (2) If the number of voters who vote in the excess levy election is 40% or less than the number who voted in the last general election in the district, then the levy is approved if the “yes” votes total at least 60% of 40% of the number of voters who voted in the preceding general election in the district.

An excess levy proposition must be submitted to the voters not more than twelve months prior to the date on which the proposed levy would be made. An excess levy proposition may not be submitted more than twice in any twelve-month period. The vote may occur either at a regular or at a special election. A levy for the support of the common schools may provide such support for up to four years. A levy of additional taxes to support the construction, modernization, or remodeling of school facilities may provide support for up to six years.

### **The effect of the proposed amendment, if it is approved:**

EHJR 4204 would amend Article 7, section 2, of the Constitution, to permit voter approval of a school district “excess levy” proposition by a majority of the voters voting on the proposition. In other words, the amendment would eliminate the 60% supermajority requirements based on the number of votes cast in the last general election in the district. The excess levy requirements would not change for levies by other local government bodies, and school districts would still be subject to the existing requirements concerning timing of levy elections. The amendments would also clarify that a proposition must be submitted not more than twelve months before the initial levy is to be made. The constitutional provisions permitting certain kinds of levies for up to four or six years would not be changed.

EHJR 4204 would also make several minor amendments to Article 2, section 7, of the Constitution to conform the language to current legislation drafting style. These changes are not intended to affect the substance or meaning of the Constitution.



## Statement For EHJR 4204

### VOTE YES ON 4204 TO SUPPORT OUR SCHOOLS

Most Washingtonians recognize the importance of public education – and the importance of local levies in providing our schools with vital, basic funding. That’s why nearly all levies win majority-level support. The problem is that levies currently require a 60% “supermajority” to pass. 4204 will fix that, allowing a much more common “simple majority” of voters in a community to decide whether a school levy should pass.

### LEVIES SUPPORT BASIC SCHOOL NEEDS

Local school levies provide many of our basic school needs, such as textbooks, building maintenance and repair, and smaller class sizes. And almost all school levies enjoy majority support. But many fail anyway – sometimes with 59% of the vote. That’s just not fair to our kids.

### LEVY FAILURES HURT OUR KIDS – AND WASTE MONEY

When a local levy fails, it results in deep budget cuts, teacher layoffs and other disruptions that hurt our kids and can take years to fix. Most levies eventually pass, sometimes on the second or third try. But this means that school districts waste a great deal of time and taxpayer money holding multiple elections when a majority of voters supported the levy in the first place.

### SIMPLE MAJORITY ENJOYS STRONG BIPARTISAN SUPPORT

Lawmakers from both parties understand how important local levies are to our schools. That’s why a two-thirds majority in both houses of the legislature – Republicans and Democrats alike – voted to put 4204 on the ballot. It is endorsed by parents, teachers, business leaders and citizens across Washington.

A vote for 4204 is a vote for our schools and provides for the basic needs of our students. Vote YES on 4204.

For more information, call (206) 658-5211.

### Rebuttal of Statement Against

The NO statement is misleading. The current system is unfair to our children.

4204 will:

- Require majority support of voters for school levies.
- Strengthen schools for our kids, by enabling voters to provide vital needs such as textbooks, lower class size and safe, secure buildings.
- Save money by reducing delays and costly repeat elections.
- Simplify a complicated system created in the 1940s.

A vote for 4204 is a vote for schools.

#### Voters’ Pamphlet Argument Prepared by:

LAURA BAY, President, Washington State PTA; RICH HADLEY, President/CEO, Greater Spokane Incorporated; MARY LINDQUIST, President, Washington Education Association and high school teacher; JIM KOWALKOWSKI, Director, Rural Education Center and Pomeroy Schools Superintendent; JAMES KELLY, President/CEO, Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle; LISA MACFARLANE, President, League of Education Voters.

## Statement Against EHJR 4204

### THE BOTTOM LINE: THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE – VOTE NO!

Why make it easier to raise property taxes when taxes are already rising rapidly? Property taxes will go up with this measure by allowing much larger levies to pass, making housing less affordable for seniors and working families.

### PROTECT OUR STATE’S CONSTITUTIONAL TAX LIMIT CREATED BY YOU – THE VOTERS. VOTE NO!

Our Constitution limits state and local government property taxes to 1% of market value. You, the voters, said any increase *by any government* above this limit – an “excess levy” – must receive 60% approval by a minimum number of voters. The bar should remain higher to raise taxes above the 1% limit. EHJR 4204 *eliminates* this common-sense protection.

*Should A Small Minority Be Able To Raise Your Taxes?* EHJR 4204 also eliminates the voter turnout protection in our Constitution, enabling a very small number of voters to raise everyone’s property taxes. For example: *If only 100 people voted and 51 voted “Yes,” everyone’s property taxes would be raised!* Currently, school districts ensure high voter turnouts, EHJR 4204 would discourage that.

### OUR GOVERNOR’S AND LEGISLATURE’S CONSTITUTIONAL “PARAMOUNT DUTY” IS TO FUND EDUCATION FOR ALL WASHINGTON CHILDREN!

*Should the quality of your child’s education depend on where they attend school?* EHJR 4204 hurts our children by widening disparities in per-pupil funding based on local property wealth. Since 1986, the state has pushed more school funding responsibility onto local school districts. The local responsibility of school funding has doubled, while the state’s has declined – 4204 would accelerate that trend. It’s time legislators and the governor make funding education #1.

### EHJR 4204 WILL RAISE YOUR PROPERTY TAXES, WITHOUT IMPROVING EDUCATION – VOTE NO!

For more than 70 years, voters have repeatedly reaffirmed these property tax protections. Send Olympia a message: *Vote “NO” on EHJR 4204!*

### Rebuttal of Statement For

Don’t believe “many” levies fail. In 2006, 271 of 279 districts *passed* levies. Since 2000, the levy success rate is 98.2%.

What’s not fair to kids and their parents is an excessive property tax bill. Our Constitution ensures affordable and accountable levies. If these constitutional protections are removed, your property taxes will increase faster.

It’s the *state’s constitutional* responsibility to provide for our schools’ basic needs – *not* shift the responsibility to local taxpayers.

VOTE NO!

#### Voters’ Pamphlet Argument Prepared by:

JANÉA HOLMQUIST, Senator, Ranking Republican, Early Learning, K-12 Committee; ED ORCUTT, State Representative, homeowner, and forester; ANGIE DORMAN, nationally-recognized teacher, 2006 American Star of Teaching; KELLY NIEMI, family forester and small business owner; STEVE APPEL, President, representing Washington Farm Bureau’s 35,000 families; WYNN CANNON, Chairman, on behalf of League of Washington Taxpayers.



# SUBSTITUTE HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 4215

Proposed to the People by the Legislature  
Amendment to the State Constitution

## *Official Ballot Title:*

The legislature has proposed a constitutional amendment on investment of higher education permanent funds.

This amendment would authorize the investment of money in higher education permanent funds as permitted by law, and would permit investment in stocks or bonds issued by any company, if authorized by law.

Should this constitutional amendment be:

Approved [ ] Rejected [ ]

**Votes cast by the 2007 Legislature on final passage:**  
Senate: Yeas, 45; Nays, 0; Absent, 0; Excused, 4.  
House: Yeas, 96; Nays, 2; Absent, 0; Excused, 0.

**Note:** The Official Ballot Title and Explanatory Statement were written by the Attorney General as required by law. The complete text of Substitute House Joint Resolution 4215 begins on page 33.

## *Explanatory Statement*

### **The constitutional provision as it presently exists:**

The constitution (Article 8, section 5) generally prohibits using state funds for gifts or loans to any individual, association, company or corporation. Another provision (Article 12, section 9) prohibits the state from subscribing to, or having an interest in, the stock of any company, association, or corporation. These provisions generally bar the state and state institutions from investing state funds in stocks, bonds, or other securities issued by private companies and associations. In 1966, the Constitution was amended (Amendment 44, amending Article 16, section 5) to permit the permanent common school fund to be invested as authorized by law, without regard to the general constitutional restrictions.

The permanent common school fund is one of several permanent education funds in the state treasury. The primary source of money in these funds is income from the sale, lease, or management of lands granted by the United States to the State of Washington at statehood for educational purposes. In addition to the permanent common school fund, held for the benefit of the K-12 public school system, there are permanent funds established for various institutions of higher education. Amendment 44 did not include funds held by, or on behalf of, state institutions of higher education. Therefore, the higher education permanent funds are still subject to the original constitutional restrictions on investment.

### **The effect of the proposed amendment, if it is approved:**

SHJR 4215 would add a new section to the Constitution permitting the legislature to decide by statute what investments would be permitted for moneys in the permanent funds established for any of the institutions of higher education in the state. The amendment would specifically permit the investment of these funds in stocks or bonds issued by any association, company, or corporation, to the extent the legislature authorizes such investments.



## ***Statement For SHJR 4215***

### **SHJR 4215: HELPING SUPPORT OUR STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**

Washington State manages several “permanent funds” for the benefit of its institutions of higher education. These permanent funds hold money derived from the lease and sale of lands that were set aside for Washington’s colleges and universities when it became a state. The earnings on these permanent funds are used for the construction and maintenance of our colleges and universities.

Our Constitution limits the investment of these permanent funds to instruments such as government bonds, resulting in very low returns. The Constitution has been amended three times to remove these restrictions from the State’s common school (K-12) permanent fund; from the State’s public pension funds, retirement funds and the industrial insurance fund; and from State funds held in trust for persons with developmental disabilities. By removing these restrictions those funds now provide greater benefits to taxpayers, retirees, employees and employers, and to persons with disabilities and their families. It is time to remove these restrictions from the permanent funds held for our colleges and universities as well.

SHJR 4215 will allow the State’s higher education permanent funds to be invested in any manner authorized by the Legislature. This will allow those funds to produce a greater return for our colleges and universities and will ease the potential burden on taxpayers. The investments will be managed by investment professionals with the State Investment Board, which is bound by the highest fiduciary investment standards.

### **SHJR 4215: COMMON SENSE INVESTMENT IN OUR FUTURE**

Vote Yes on SHJR 4215 to provide a more secure future for our colleges and universities.

### ***Rebuttal of Statement Against***

It’s not gambling to allow our higher education funds to be invested in ways that are prudent and consistent with the standards imposed on professional trustees. SHJR 4215 merely allows for a more diversified mix of investments for the long term benefit of our colleges and universities. Other state funds are now invested under these standards and are realizing significantly improved returns. Don’t leave our institutions of higher education behind. Vote yes for SHJR 4215.

#### ***Voters’ Pamphlet Argument Prepared by:***

PHYLLIS GUTIERREZ KENNEY, State Representative, 46<sup>th</sup> Legislative District; MARK SCHOESLER, State Senator, 9<sup>th</sup> Legislative District; KEN ALHADEFF, member – WSU Board of Regents, Chairman – Elttaes Enterprises; DANIEL J. EVANS, former Governor, Washington State.

## ***Statement Against SHJR 4215***

### **SHJR 4215 PLACES UNIVERSITY TRUST FUNDS AT RISK.**

*These funds should remain in stable investments that support families and communities, instead of gambling them in the stock market to create profits for stockbrokers.*

*Why are our university trust funds currently protected by our Constitution?* When Washington became a state in 1889, Congress dedicated state lands to benefit the state’s public universities. This means that the income generated by these lands will be available to support Washington’s public universities –forever. We have a duty to safeguard this income for the benefit of future generations.

*Why do sponsors of SHJR 4215 want to amend our Constitution?* They want to undo legal protections on university trust funds in the hope of hitting it big in the stock market. Currently, that investment strategy is unconstitutional and illegal.

*Why does our Constitution prohibit investment of most public funds in the stock market?* The founders of our state wanted to protect money that belongs to the public—protect it from high stakes gambles—so they required the voters to approve a constitutional amendment before public funds can be put at significant risk in the stock market.

*Why should I vote NO on SHJR 4215?* Putting funds in the stock market may bring in big money, or be totally lost forever. Right now these funds are safely invested to bring in steady revenue to support universities now *and* in the future. Don’t let our university trust funds end up like the losing ticket on the racetrack floor. Vote NO on this constitutional amendment.

### ***Rebuttal of Statement For***

Don’t be misled! Removing constitutional restrictions on university trust funds will not provide greater benefits or ease burdens to taxpayers. Taxpayers would face a greater risk when these funds diminish due to certain swings in the stock market. Our investment in our higher education facilities should be supported by prudent long-term stable investments – not by desperately chasing a quick buck. Don’t gamble our future.

Save our constitutional protections. Vote NO on SHJR 4215.

#### ***Voters’ Pamphlet Argument Prepared by:***

BOB HASEGAWA, State Representative, 11<sup>th</sup> Legislative District; GLENN ANDERSON, State Representative, 5<sup>th</sup> Legislative District.



AN ACT Relating to tax and fee increases imposed by state government; amending RCW 43.88A.020, 43.88A.030, 43.135.035, 29A.72.040, 29A.72.250, 29A.72.290, 29A.32.031, 29A.32.070, and 43.135.055; adding a new section to chapter 43.135 RCW; adding new sections to chapter 29A.72 RCW; creating new sections; and providing an effective date.

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

**INTENT**

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 1.** Washington has a long history of public interest in tax increases. The people have clearly and consistently illustrated their ongoing and passionate desire to ensure that taxpayers are protected. The people find that even without raising taxes, the government consistently receives revenue growth many times higher than the rate of inflation every year. With this measure, the people intend to protect taxpayers by creating a series of accountability procedures to ensure greater legislative transparency, broader public participation, and wider agreement before state government takes more of the people's money. This measure protects taxpayers and relates to tax and fee increases imposed by state government. This measure would require publication of cost projections, information on public hearings, and legislators' sponsorship and voting records on bills increasing taxes and fees, allow either two-thirds legislative approval or voter approval for tax increases, and require advisory votes on tax increases blocked from citizen referendum.

The intent of sections 2, 3, and 4 of this act: The people want a thorough, independent analysis of any proposed increase in taxes and fees. The people find that legislators too often do not know the costs to the taxpayers for their tax and fee increases and this fiscal analysis by the office of financial management will provide better, more accessible information. The people want a user-friendly method to track the progress of bills increasing taxes and fees, finding that transparency and openness leads to more public involvement and better understanding. The people want information on public hearings and legislators' sponsorship and voting records on bills increasing taxes and fees and want easy access to contact information of legislators so the people's voice can be heard. Section 2(5) and (6) of this act are intended to provide active, engaged citizens with the opportunity to be notified of the status of bills increasing taxes and fees. Such a notification system is already being provided by the state supreme court with regard to judicial rulings. Intent of RCW 43.88A.020: The cost projection reports required by section 2 of this act will simplify and facilitate the creation of fiscal notes. The people want the office of financial management to fully comply with the cost projections and other requirements of section 2 on bills increasing taxes or fees before fiscal notes. Cost projections and the other information required

by section 2 are critically important for the Legislature, the media, and the public to receive before fiscal notes.

The intent of section 5 of this act: The two-thirds requirement for raising taxes has been on the books since 1993 and the people find that this policy has provided the legislature with a much stronger incentive to use existing revenues more cost effectively rather than reflexively raising taxes. The people want this policy continued and want it to be clear that tax increases inside and outside the general fund are subject to the two-thirds threshold. If the legislature cannot receive a two-thirds vote in the house of representatives and senate to raise taxes, the Constitution provides the legislature with the option of referring the tax increase to the voters for their approval or rejection at an election using a referendum bill. The people expect the legislature to respect, follow, and abide by the law, on the books for 13 years, to not raise taxes in excess of the state expenditure limit without two-thirds legislative approval and a vote of the people. Intent of RCW 43.135.035(5): When it comes to enactment of tax increases exceeding the state expenditure limit, the legislature has, in recent years, shifted money between funds to get around the voter approval requirement for tax increases above the state expenditure limit as occurred in 2005 with sections 1607 and 1701 of ESSB 6090. RCW 43.135.035(5) is intended to clarify the law so that the effective taxpayer protection of requiring voter approval for tax increases exceeding the state expenditure limit is not circumvented.

The intent of sections 6 through 13 of this act: Our state constitution guarantees to the people the right of referendum. In recent years, however, the legislature has thwarted the people's constitutional right to referendum by excessive use of the emergency clause. In 2005, for example, the legislature approved five hundred twenty-three bills and declared ninety-eight of them, nearly twenty percent, "emergencies," insulating them all from the constitution's guaranteed right to referendum. The Courts' reviews of emergency clauses have resulted in inconsistent decisions regarding the legality of them in individual cases. The people find that, if they are not allowed to vote on a tax increase, good public policy demands that at least the legislature should be aware of the voters' view of individual tax increases. An advisory vote of the people at least gives the legislature the views of the voters and gives the voters information about the bill increasing taxes and provides the voters with legislators' names and contact information and how they voted on the bill. The people have a right to know what's happening in Olympia. Intent of section 6(1) of this act: If the legislature blocks a citizen referendum through the use of an emergency clause or a citizen referendum on the tax increase is not certified for the next general election ballot, then an advisory vote on the tax increase is required. Intent of section 6(4) of this act: If there's a binding vote on the ballot, there's no need for a non-binding vote.

The intent of section 14 of this act: The people want to return the authority to impose or increase fees from unelected officials at state agencies to the duly elected representatives of the legislature or to the people. The people find that fee increases should be debated openly and transparently and up-or-down votes taken by our elected



representatives so the people are given the opportunity to hold them accountable at the next election.

**PROTECTING TAXPAYERS BY REQUIRING PUBLICATION OF COST PROJECTIONS, INFORMATION ON PUBLIC HEARINGS, AND LEGISLATORS' SPONSORSHIP AND VOTING RECORDS ON BILLS INCREASING TAXES AND FEES**  
**NEW SECTION. Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.135

RCW and reads as follows:

(1) For any bill introduced in either the house of representatives or the senate that raises taxes as defined by RCW 43.135.035 or increases fees, the office of financial management must expeditiously determine its cost to the taxpayers in its first ten years of imposition, must promptly and without delay report the results of its analysis by public press release via email to each member of the house of representatives, each member of the senate, the news media, and the public, and must post and maintain these releases on its web site. Any ten-year cost projection must include a year-by-year breakdown. For any bill containing more than one revenue source, a ten-year cost projection for each revenue source will be included along with the bill's total ten-year cost projection. The press release shall include the names of the legislators, and their contact information, who are sponsors and co-sponsors of the bill so they can provide information to, and answer questions from, the public.

(2) Any time any legislative committee schedules a public hearing on a bill that raises taxes as defined by RCW 43.135.035 or increases fees, the office of financial management must promptly and without delay report the results of its most up-to-date analysis of the bill required by subsection (1) of this section and the date, time, and location of the hearing by public press release via email to each member of the house of representatives, each member of the senate, the news media, and the public, and must post and maintain these releases on its web site. The press release required by this subsection must include all the information required by subsection (1) of this section and the names of the legislators, and their contact information, who are members of the legislative committee conducting the hearing so they can provide information to, and answer questions from, the public.

(3) Each time a bill that raises taxes as defined by RCW 43.135.035 or increases fees is approved by any legislative committee or by at least a simple majority in either the house of representatives or the senate, the office of financial management must expeditiously re-examine and re-determine its ten-year cost projection due to amendment or other changes during the legislative process, must promptly and without delay report the results of its most up-to-date analysis by public press release via email to each member of the house of representatives, each member of the senate,

the news media, and the public, and must post and maintain these releases on its web site. Any ten-year cost projection must include a year-by-year breakdown. For any bill containing more than one revenue source, a ten-year cost projection for each revenue source will be included along with the bill's total ten-year cost projection. The press release shall include the names of the legislators, and their contact information, and how they voted on the bill so they can provide information to, and answer questions from, the public.

(4) For the purposes of this section, "names of legislators, and their contact information" includes each legislator's position (Senator or Representative), first name, last name, party affiliation (for example, Democrat or Republican), city or town they live in, office phone number, and office email address.

(5) For the purposes of this section, "news media" means any member of the press or media organization, including newspapers, radio, and television, that signs up with the office of financial management to receive the public press releases by email.

(6) For the purposes of this section, "the public" means any person, group, or organization that signs up with the office of financial management to receive the public press releases by email.

**Sec. 3.** RCW 43.88A.020 and 1994 c 219 s 3 are each amended to read as follows:

The office of financial management shall, in cooperation with appropriate legislative committees and legislative staff, establish a procedure for the provision of fiscal notes on the expected impact of bills and resolutions which increase or decrease or tend to increase or decrease state government revenues or expenditures. Such fiscal notes shall indicate by fiscal year the impact for the remainder of the biennium in which the bill or resolution will first take effect as well as a cumulative forecast of the fiscal impact for the succeeding four fiscal years. Fiscal notes shall separately identify the fiscal impacts on the operating and capital budgets. Estimates of fiscal impacts shall be calculated using the procedures contained in the fiscal note instructions issued by the office of financial management.

In establishing the fiscal impact called for pursuant to this chapter, the office of financial management shall coordinate the development of fiscal notes with all state agencies affected.

The preparation and dissemination of the ongoing cost projections and other requirements of section 2 of this act for bills increasing taxes or fees shall take precedence over fiscal notes.

**Sec. 4.** RCW 43.88A.030 and 1986 c 158 s 16 are each amended to read as follows:

When a fiscal note is prepared and approved as to form, accuracy, and completeness by the office of financial management, which depicts the expected fiscal impact of a bill or resolution, copies shall be filed immediately with:

- (1) The chairperson of the committee to which the bill or resolution was referred upon introduction in the house of origin;
- (2) The senate committee on ways and means, or its successor; and
- (3) The house committees on revenue and appropriations, or their successors.



Whenever possible, such fiscal note and, in the case of a bill increasing taxes or fees, the cost projection and other information required under section 2 of this act shall be provided prior to or at the time the bill or resolution is first heard by the committee of reference in the house of origin.

When a fiscal note has been prepared for a bill or resolution, a copy of the fiscal note shall be placed in the bill books or otherwise attached to the bill or resolution and shall remain with the bill or resolution throughout the legislative process insofar as possible. For bills increasing taxes or fees, the cost projection and other information required by section 2 of this act shall be placed in the bill books or otherwise attached to the bill or resolution and shall remain with the bill or resolution throughout the legislative process insofar as possible.

**PROTECTING TAXPAYERS BY ALLOWING EITHER TWO-THIRDS LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL OR VOTER APPROVAL FOR TAX INCREASES**

**Sec. 5.** RCW 43.135.035 and 2005 c 72 s 5 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) After July 1, 1995, any action or combination of actions by the legislature that ~~((raises state revenue or requires revenue-neutral tax shifts))~~ raises taxes may be taken only if approved by a two-thirds vote of each house of the legislature, and then only if state expenditures in any fiscal year, including the new revenue, will not exceed the state expenditure limits established under this chapter. Pursuant to the referendum power set forth in Article II, section 1(b) of the state Constitution, tax increases may be referred to the voters for their approval or rejection at an election.

(2)(a) If the legislative action under subsection (1) of this section will result in expenditures in excess of the state expenditure limit, then the action of the legislature shall not take effect until approved by a vote of the people at a November general election. The state expenditure limit committee shall adjust the state expenditure limit by the amount of additional revenue approved by the voters under this section. This adjustment shall not exceed the amount of revenue generated by the legislative action during the first full fiscal year in which it is in effect. The state expenditure limit shall be adjusted downward upon expiration or repeal of the legislative action.

(b) The ballot title for any vote of the people required under this section shall be substantially as follows:

“Shall taxes be imposed on . . . . . in order to allow a spending increase above last year’s authorized spending adjusted for inflation and population increases?”

(3)(a) The state expenditure limit may be exceeded upon declaration of an emergency for a period not to exceed twenty-four months by a law approved by a two-thirds vote of each house of the legislature and signed by the governor. The law shall set forth the nature of the emergency, which is limited to natural

disasters that require immediate government action to alleviate human suffering and provide humanitarian assistance. The state expenditure limit may be exceeded for no more than twenty-four months following the declaration of the emergency and only for the purposes contained in the emergency declaration.

(b) Additional taxes required for an emergency under this section may be imposed only until thirty days following the next general election, unless an extension is approved at that general election. The additional taxes shall expire upon expiration of the declaration of emergency. The legislature shall not impose additional taxes for emergency purposes under this subsection unless funds in the education construction fund have been exhausted.

(c) The state or any political subdivision of the state shall not impose any tax on intangible property listed in RCW 84.36.070 as that statute exists on January 1, 1993.

(4) If the cost of any state program or function is shifted from the state general fund or a related fund to another source of funding, or if moneys are transferred from the state general fund or a related fund to another fund or account, the state expenditure limit committee, acting pursuant to RCW 43.135.025(5), shall lower the state expenditure limit to reflect the shift. For the purposes of this section, a transfer of money from the state general fund or a related fund to another fund or account includes any state legislative action taken that has the effect of reducing revenues from a particular source, where such revenues would otherwise be deposited into the state general fund or a related fund, while increasing the revenues from that particular source to another state or local government account. This subsection does not apply to the dedication or use of lottery revenues under RCW 67.70.240(3) or property taxes under RCW 84.52.068, in support of education or education expenditures.

(5) If the cost of any state program or function and the ongoing revenue necessary to fund the program or function are shifted to the state general fund or a related fund on or after January 1, 2007, the state expenditure limit committee, acting pursuant to RCW 43.135.025(5), shall increase the state expenditure limit to reflect the shift unless the shifted revenue had previously been shifted from the general fund or a related fund.

(6) For the purposes of this act, “raises taxes” means any action or combination of actions by the legislature that increases state tax revenue deposited in any fund, budget, or account, regardless of whether the revenues are deposited into the general fund.

**PROTECTING TAXPAYERS BY REQUIRING AN ADVISORY VOTE OF THE PEOPLE WHEN THE LEGISLATURE BLOCKS A TAX INCREASE FROM A PUBLIC VOTE**

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 6.** A new section is added to chapter 43.135 RCW and reads as follows:

(1) If legislative action raising taxes as defined by RCW 43.135.035 is blocked from a public vote or is not referred to the people by a referendum petition found to be sufficient under RCW 29A.72.250, a measure for an advisory vote of the people is required and shall be placed on the next general election ballot under this act.



(a) If legislative action raising taxes involves more than one revenue source, each tax being increased shall be subject to a separate measure for an advisory vote of the people under the requirements of this act.

(2) No later than the first of August, the attorney general will send written notice to the secretary of state of any tax increase that is subject to an advisory vote of the people, under the provisions and exceptions provided by this act. Within five days of receiving such written notice from the attorney general, the secretary of state will assign a serial number for a measure for an advisory vote of the people and transmit one copy of the measure bearing its serial number to the attorney general as required by RCW 29A.72.040, for any tax increase identified by the attorney general as needing an advisory vote of the people for that year's general election ballot. Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays are not counted in calculating the time limits in this subsection.

(3) For the purposes of this section, "blocked from a public vote" includes adding an emergency clause to a bill increasing taxes, bonding or contractually obligating taxes, or otherwise preventing a referendum on a bill increasing taxes.

(4) If legislative action raising taxes is referred to the people by the legislature or is included in an initiative to the people found to be sufficient under RCW 29A.72.250, then the tax increase is exempt from an advisory vote of the people under this act.

**Sec. 7.** RCW 29A.72.040 and 2003 c 111 s 1805 are each amended to read as follows:

The secretary of state shall give a serial number to each initiative, referendum bill, ~~((or))~~ referendum measure, or measure for an advisory vote of the people, using a separate series for initiatives to the legislature, initiatives to the people, referendum bills, ~~((and))~~ referendum measures, and measures for an advisory vote of the people, and forthwith transmit one copy of the measure proposed bearing its serial number to the attorney general. Thereafter a measure shall be known and designated on all petitions, ballots, and proceedings as "Initiative Measure No. . . . .," "Referendum Bill No. . . . .," ~~((or))~~ "Referendum Measure No. . . . .," or "Advisory Vote No. . . . ."

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 8.** A new section is added to RCW 29A.72 and shall read as follows:

Within five days of receipt of a measure for an advisory vote of the people from the secretary of state under RCW 29A.72.040 the attorney general shall formulate a short description not exceeding thirty-three words and not subject to appeal, of each tax increase and shall transmit a certified copy of such short description meeting the requirements of this section to the secretary of state. The description must be formulated and displayed on the ballot substantially as follows:

"The legislature imposed, without a vote of the people, (identification of tax and description of increase), costing (most up-to-date ten-year cost projection, expressed in dollars and rounded to the nearest million) in its first ten years, for government spending. This tax increase should be:

Repealed . . . [ ]

Maintained . . . [ ]"

Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays are not counted in calculating the time limits in this section. The words "This tax increase should be: Repealed . . . [ ] Maintained . . . [ ]" are not counted in the thirty-three word limit for a short description under this section.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 9.** A new section is added to RCW 29A.72 and shall read as follows:

When the short description is finally established under section 8 of this act, the secretary of state shall file the instrument establishing it with the proposed measure and transmit a copy thereof by mail to the chief clerk of the house of representatives, the secretary of the senate, and to any other individuals who have made written request for such notification. Thereafter such short description shall be the description of the measure in all ballots and other proceedings in relation thereto.

**Sec. 10.** RCW 29A.72.250 and 2003 c 111 s 1825 are each amended to read as follows:

If a referendum or initiative petition for submission of a measure to the people is found sufficient, the secretary of state shall at the time and in the manner that he or she certifies for the county auditors of the various counties the names of candidates for state and district officers certify to each county auditor the serial numbers and ballot titles of the several initiative and referendum measures and serial numbers and short descriptions of measures submitted for an advisory vote of the people to be voted upon at the next ensuing general election or special election ordered by the legislature.

**Sec. 11.** RCW 29A.72.290 and 2003 c 111 s 1829 are each amended to read as follows:

The county auditor of each county shall print on the official ballots for the election at which initiative and referendum measures and measures for an advisory vote of the people are to be submitted to the people for their approval or rejection, the serial numbers and ballot titles certified by the secretary of state and the serial numbers and short descriptions of measures for an advisory vote of the people. They must appear under separate headings in the order of the serial numbers as follows:

(1) Measures proposed for submission to the people by initiative petition will be under the heading, "Proposed by Initiative Petition";

(2) Bills passed by the legislature and ordered referred to the people by referendum petition will be under the heading, "Passed by the Legislature and Ordered Referred by Petition";

(3) Bills passed and referred to the people by the legislature will be under the heading, "Proposed to the People by the Legislature";

(4) Measures proposed to the legislature and rejected or not acted upon will be under the heading, "Proposed to the Legislature and



Referred to the People”;

(5) Measures proposed to the legislature and alternative measures passed by the legislature in lieu thereof will be under the heading, “Initiated by Petition and Alternative by Legislature”;

(6) Measures for an advisory vote of the people under RCW 29A.72.040 will be under the heading, “Advisory Vote of the People”.

**Sec. 12.** RCW 29A.32.031 and 2004 c 271 s 121 are each amended to read as follows:

The voters’ pamphlet must contain:

(1) Information about each measure for an advisory vote of the people and each ballot measure initiated by or referred to the voters for their approval or rejection as required by RCW 29A.32.070;

(2) In even-numbered years, statements, if submitted, advocating the candidacies of nominees for the office of president and vice president of the United States, United States senator, United States representative, governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, state treasurer, state auditor, attorney general, commissioner of public lands, superintendent of public instruction, insurance commissioner, state senator, state representative, justice of the supreme court, judge of the court of appeals, or judge of the superior court. Candidates may also submit a campaign mailing address and telephone number and a photograph not more than five years old and of a size and quality that the secretary of state determines to be suitable for reproduction in the voters’ pamphlet;

(3) In odd-numbered years, if any office voted upon statewide appears on the ballot due to a vacancy, then statements and photographs for candidates for any vacant office listed in subsection (2) of this section must appear;

(4) In even-numbered years, a section explaining how voters may participate in the election campaign process; the address and telephone number of the public disclosure commission established under RCW 42.17.350; and a summary of the disclosure requirements that apply when contributions are made to candidates and political committees;

(5) In even-numbered years the name, address, and telephone number of each political party with nominees listed in the pamphlet, if filed with the secretary of state by the state committee of a major political party or the presiding officer of the convention of a minor political party;

(6) In each odd-numbered year immediately before a year in which a president of the United States is to be nominated and elected, information explaining the precinct caucus and convention process used by each major political party to elect delegates to its national presidential candidate nominating convention. The pamphlet must also provide a description of the statutory procedures by which minor political parties are formed and the statutory methods used by the parties to nominate candidates for president;

(7) An application form for an absentee ballot;

(8) A brief statement explaining the deletion and addition of language for proposed measures under RCW 29A.32.080;

(9) Any additional information pertaining to elections as may be required by law or in the judgment of the secretary of state is deemed informative to the voters.

**Sec. 13.** RCW 29A.32.070 and 2003 c 111 s 807 are each amended to read as follows:

The secretary of state shall determine the format and layout of the voters’ pamphlet. The secretary of state shall print the pamphlet in clear, readable type on a size, quality, and weight of paper that in the judgment of the secretary of state best serves the voters. The pamphlet must contain a table of contents. Federal and state offices must appear in the pamphlet in the same sequence as they appear on the ballot. Measures and arguments must be printed in the order specified by RCW 29A.72.290.

The voters’ pamphlet must provide the following information for each statewide issue on the ballot except measures for an advisory vote of the people whose requirements are provided in subsection (11) of this section:

(1) The legal identification of the measure by serial designation or number;

(2) The official ballot title of the measure;

(3) A statement prepared by the attorney general explaining the law as it presently exists;

(4) A statement prepared by the attorney general explaining the effect of the proposed measure if it becomes law;

(5) The fiscal impact statement prepared under \*RCW 29.79.075;

(6) The total number of votes cast for and against the measure in the senate and house of representatives, if the measure has been passed by the legislature;

(7) An argument advocating the voters’ approval of the measure together with any statement in rebuttal of the opposing argument;

(8) An argument advocating the voters’ rejection of the measure together with any statement in rebuttal of the opposing argument;

(9) Each argument or rebuttal statement must be followed by the names of the committee members who submitted them, and may be followed by a telephone number that citizens may call to obtain information on the ballot measure;

(10) The full text of the measure;

(11) Two pages shall be provided in the general election voters’ pamphlet for each measure for an advisory vote of the people under section 6 of this act and shall consist of the serial number assigned by the secretary of state under RCW 29A.72.040, the short description formulated by the attorney general under section 8 of this act, the tax increase’s most up-to-date ten-year cost projection, including a year-by-year breakdown, by the office of financial management under section 2 of this act, and the names of the legislators, and their contact information, and how they voted on the increase upon final passage so they can provide information

*Complete Text of*



**INITIATIVE MEASURE NO. 960**

*(continued)*

to, and answer questions from, the public. For the purposes of this subsection, “names of legislators, and their contact information” includes each legislator’s position (Senator or Representative), first name, last name, party affiliation (for example, Democrat or Republican), city or town they live in, office phone number, and office email address.

**PROTECTING TAXPAYERS BY REQUIRING FEE INCREASES TO BE VOTED ON BY ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES, RATHER THAN IMPOSED BY UNELECTED OFFICIALS AT STATE AGENCIES**

**Sec. 14.** RCW 43.135.055 and 2001 c 314 s 19 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) No fee may be imposed or increased in any fiscal year ((by a percentage in excess of the fiscal growth factor for that fiscal year)) without prior legislative approval and must be subject to the accountability procedures required by section 2 of this act.

(2) This section does not apply to an assessment made by an

agricultural commodity commission or board created by state statute or created under a marketing agreement or order under chapter 15.65 or 15.66 RCW, or to the forest products commission, if the assessment is approved by referendum in accordance with the provisions of the statutes creating the commission or board or chapter 15.65 or 15.66 RCW for approving such assessments.

**CONSTRUCTION CLAUSE**

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 15.** The provisions of this act are to be liberally construed to effectuate the intent, policies, and purposes of this act.

**SEVERABILITY CLAUSE**

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 16.** 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.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 17.** Subheadings and part headings used in this act are not part of the law.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 18.** This act shall be known and cited as the Taxpayer Protection Act of 2007.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 19.** This act takes effect December 6, 2007.

*Complete Text of*



**REFERENDUM MEASURE NO. 67**

AN ACT Relating to creating the insurance fair conduct act; amending RCW 48.30.010; adding a new section to chapter 48.30 RCW; creating a new section; and prescribing penalties.

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

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 1.** This act may be known and cited as the insurance fair conduct act.

**Sec. 2.** RCW 48.30.010 and 1997 c 409 s 107 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) No person engaged in the business of insurance shall engage in unfair methods of competition or in unfair or deceptive acts or practices in the conduct of such business as such methods, acts, or practices are defined pursuant to subsection (2) of this section.

(2) In addition to such unfair methods and unfair or deceptive acts or practices as are expressly defined and prohibited by this code, the commissioner may from time to time by regulation promulgated pursuant to chapter 34.05 RCW, define other methods of competition and other acts and practices in the conduct of such business reasonably found by the commissioner to be unfair or deceptive after a review of all comments received during the notice and comment rule-making period.

(3)(a) In defining other methods of competition and other acts and practices in the conduct of such business to be unfair or deceptive, and after reviewing all comments and documents received during the notice and comment rule-making period, the commissioner shall identify his or her reasons for defining the method of competition or other act or practice in the conduct of insurance to be unfair or deceptive and shall include a statement outlining these reasons as part of the adopted rule.

(b) The commissioner shall include a detailed description of facts upon which he or she relied and of facts upon which he or she failed to rely, in defining the method of competition or other act or practice in the conduct of insurance to be unfair or deceptive, in the concise explanatory statement prepared under RCW 34.05.325(6).

(c) Upon appeal the superior court shall review the findings of fact upon which the regulation is based de novo on the record.

(4) No such regulation shall be made effective prior to the expiration of thirty days after the date of the order by which it is promulgated.

(5) If the commissioner has cause to believe that any person is violating any such regulation, the commissioner may order such person to cease and desist therefrom. The commissioner shall deliver such order to such person direct or mail it to the person by registered mail with return receipt requested. If the person violates the order after expiration of ten days after the cease and desist order has been received by him or her, he or she may be fined by the commissioner a sum not to exceed two hundred and fifty dollars for each violation committed thereafter.

(6) If any such regulation is violated, the commissioner may



take such other or additional action as is permitted under the insurance code for violation of a regulation.

(7) An insurer engaged in the business of insurance may not unreasonably deny a claim for coverage or payment of benefits to any first party claimant. "First party claimant" has the same meaning as in section 3 of this act.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 48.30 RCW to read as follows:

(1) Any first party claimant to a policy of insurance who is unreasonably denied a claim for coverage or payment of benefits by an insurer may bring an action in the superior court of this state to recover the actual damages sustained, together with the costs of the action, including reasonable attorneys' fees and litigation costs, as set forth in subsection (3) of this section.

(2) The superior court may, after finding that an insurer has acted unreasonably in denying a claim for coverage or payment of benefits or has violated a rule in subsection (5) of this section, increase the total award of damages to an amount not to exceed three times the actual damages.

(3) The superior court shall, after a finding of unreasonable denial of a claim for coverage or payment of benefits, or after a finding of a violation of a rule in subsection (5) of this section, award reasonable attorneys' fees and actual and statutory litigation costs, including expert witness fees, to the first party claimant of an insurance contract who is the prevailing party in such an action.

(4) "First party claimant" means an individual, corporation, association, partnership, or other legal entity asserting a right to payment as a covered person under an insurance policy or insurance contract arising out of the occurrence of the contingency or loss covered by such a policy or contract.

(5) A violation of any of the following is a violation for the purposes of subsections (2) and (3) of this section:

(a) WAC 284-30-330, captioned "specific unfair claims settlement practices defined";

(b) WAC 284-30-350, captioned "misrepresentation of policy provisions";

(c) WAC 284-30-360, captioned "failure to acknowledge pertinent communications";

(d) WAC 284-30-370, captioned "standards for prompt investigation of claims";

(e) WAC 284-30-380, captioned "standards for prompt, fair and equitable settlements applicable to all insurers"; or

(f) An unfair claims settlement practice rule adopted under RCW 48.30.010 by the insurance commissioner intending to implement this section. The rule must be codified in chapter 284-30 of the Washington Administrative Code.

(6) This section does not limit a court's existing ability to make any other determination regarding an action for an unfair or deceptive practice of an insurer or provide for any other remedy that is available at law.

(7) This section does not apply to a health plan offered by a health carrier. "Health plan" has the same meaning as in RCW 48.43.005. "Health carrier" has the same meaning as in RCW 48.43.005.

(8)(a) Twenty days prior to filing an action based on this section, a first party claimant must provide written notice of the basis for the cause of action to the insurer and office of the insurance commissioner. Notice may be provided by regular mail, registered mail, or certified mail with return receipt requested. Proof of notice by mail may be made in the same manner as prescribed by court rule or statute for proof of service by mail. The insurer and insurance commissioner are deemed to have received notice three business days after the notice is mailed.

(b) If the insurer fails to resolve the basis for the action within the twenty-day period after the written notice by the first party claimant, the first party claimant may bring the action without any further notice.

(c) The first party claimant may bring an action after the required period of time in (a) of this subsection has elapsed.

(d) If a written notice of claim is served under (a) of this subsection within the time prescribed for the filing of an action under this section, the statute of limitations for the action is tolled during the twenty-day period of time in (a) of this subsection.



Your personalized voter information is coming soon with **MyVote**, a new website offered by the Office of the

Secretary of State in collaboration with your county elections department.

Simply sign onto the system using your voter registration name and birthdate to access:

- ✓ **Your personalized ballot;**
- ✓ **Your voting history;**
- ✓ **Your name and address online;**
- ✓ **Your nearest ballot drop box; and**
- ✓ **Your ballot status.**



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 the secretary of state shall submit 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 a new section to read as follows:

Article VII, section .... (a) A budget stabilization account shall be established and maintained in the state treasury.

(b) By June 30<sup>th</sup> of each fiscal year, an amount equal to one percent of the general state revenues for that fiscal year shall be transferred to the budget stabilization account. Nothing in this subsection (b) shall prevent the appropriation of additional amounts to the budget stabilization account.

(c) Each fiscal quarter, the state economic and revenue forecast council appointed and authorized as provided by statute, or successor entity, shall estimate state employment growth for the current and next two fiscal years.

(d) Moneys may be withdrawn and appropriated from the budget stabilization account as follows:

(i) If the governor declares a state of emergency resulting from a catastrophic event that necessitates government action to protect life or public safety, then for that fiscal year moneys may be withdrawn and appropriated from the budget stabilization account, via separate legislation setting forth the nature of the emergency and containing an appropriation limited to the above-authorized purposes as

contained in the declaration, by a favorable vote of a majority of the members elected to each house of the legislature.

(ii) If the employment growth forecast for any fiscal year is estimated to be less than one percent, then for that fiscal year moneys may be withdrawn and appropriated from the budget stabilization account by the favorable vote of a majority of the members elected to each house of the legislature.

(iii) Any amount may be withdrawn and appropriated from the budget stabilization account at any time by the favorable vote of at least three-fifths of the members of each house of the legislature.

(e) Amounts in the budget stabilization account may be invested as provided by law and retained in that account. When the balance in the budget stabilization account, including investment earnings, equals more than ten percent of the estimated general state revenues in that fiscal year, the legislature by the favorable vote of a majority of the members elected to each house of the legislature may withdraw and appropriate the balance to the extent that the balance exceeds ten percent of the estimated general state revenues. Appropriations under this subsection (e) may be made solely for deposit to the education construction fund.

(f) As used in this section, "general state revenues" has the meaning set forth in Article VIII, section 1 of the Constitution. Forecasts and estimates shall be made by the state economic and revenue forecast council appointed and authorized as provided by statute, or successor entity.

(g) The legislature shall enact appropriate laws to carry out the purposes of this section.

(h) This section takes effect July 1, 2008.

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



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 the secretary of state shall submit to the qualified voters of the state for their approval and ratification, or rejection, an amendment to Article II, section 29 of the Constitution of the state of Washington to read as follows:

Article II, section 29. ~~((After the first day of January eighteen hundred and ninety))~~ The labor of ((convicts)) inmates of this state shall not be let out by contract to any person, copartnership, company, or corporation, except as provided by statute, and the legislature shall by law provide for the working of ~~((convicts)) inmates~~ for the benefit of the state, including the working of

inmates in state-run inmate labor programs. Inmate labor programs provided by statute that are operated and managed, in total or in part, by any profit or nonprofit entities shall be operated so that the programs do not unfairly compete with Washington businesses as determined by law.

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



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 the secretary of state shall submit to the qualified voters of the state for their approval and ratification, or rejection, an amendment to Article VII, section 2 of the Constitution of the state of Washington to read as follows:

Article VII, section 2. Except as hereinafter provided and notwithstanding any other provision of this Constitution, the aggregate of all tax levies upon real and personal property by the state and all taxing districts now existing or hereafter created, shall not in any year exceed one percent of the true and fair value of such property in money(~~(:Provided, however, That)~~). Nothing herein shall prevent levies at the rates now provided by law by or for any port or public utility district. The term "taxing district" for the purposes of this section shall mean any political subdivision, municipal corporation, district, or other governmental agency authorized by law to levy, or have levied for it, ad valorem taxes on property, other than a port or public utility district. Such aggregate limitation or any specific limitation imposed by law in conformity therewith may be exceeded only as follows:

(a) By any taxing district when specifically authorized so to do by a majority of at least three-fifths of the voters of the taxing district voting on the proposition to levy such additional tax submitted not more than twelve months prior to the date on which the proposed initial levy is to be made and not oftener than twice in such twelve month period, either at a special election or at the regular election of such taxing district, at which election the number of voters voting "yes" on the proposition shall constitute three-fifths of a number equal to forty percent of the total number of voters voting in such taxing district at the last preceding general election when the number of voters voting on the proposition does not exceed forty percent of the total number of voters voting in such taxing district in the last preceding general election; or by a majority of at least three-fifths of the voters of the taxing district voting on the proposition to levy when the number of voters voting on the proposition exceeds forty percent of the number of voters voting in such taxing district in the last preceding general election(~~(:Provided, That)~~). Notwithstanding any other provision of this Constitution, any proposition pursuant to this subsection to levy additional tax for the support of the common schools or fire protection districts may provide such support for a period of up to four years and any proposition to levy an additional tax to support the construction, modernization, or remodelling of school facilities or fire facilities may provide such support for a period not exceeding six years. Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection, a proposition under this subsection to levy an additional

tax for a school district shall be authorized by a majority of the voters voting on the proposition, regardless of the number of voters voting on the proposition;

(b) By any taxing district otherwise authorized by law to issue general obligation bonds for capital purposes, for the sole purpose of making the required payments of principal and interest on general obligation bonds issued solely for capital purposes, other than the replacement of equipment, when authorized so to do by majority of at least three-fifths of the voters of the taxing district voting on the proposition to issue such bonds and to pay the principal and interest thereon by annual tax levies in excess of the limitation herein provided during the term of such bonds, submitted not oftener than twice in any calendar year, at an election held in the manner provided by law for bond elections in such taxing district, at which election the total number of voters voting on the proposition shall constitute not less than forty percent of the total number of voters voting in such taxing district at the last preceding general election(~~(:Provided, 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 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 this constitutional amendment to be published at least four times during the four weeks next preceding the election in every legal newspaper in the state.

#### PLEASE NOTE

In the text of the measures, any language in double parentheses with a line through it is existing state law and will be taken out of the law if the measure is approved by voters. Any underlined language does not appear in current state law but will be added to the law if the measure is approved by voters.



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 the secretary of state shall submit to the qualified voters of the state for their approval and ratification, or rejection, an amendment to Article XVI of the Constitution of the state of Washington by adding a new section to read as follows:

Article XVI, section ..... **INVESTMENT OF HIGHER**

**EDUCATION PERMANENT FUNDS.** Notwithstanding the provisions of Article VIII, sections 5 and 7 and Article XII, section 9, or any other section or article of the Constitution of the state of Washington, the moneys of the permanent funds established for any of the institutions of higher education in this state may be invested as authorized by law. Without limitation, this shall include the authority to invest permanent funds held for the benefit of institutions of higher education in stocks or bonds issued by any association, company, or corporation if authorized by law.

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

The above text is an exact reproduction as submitted by the Legislature. The Office of the Secretary of State has no editorial authority.



# New address?

## Update your voting information!

If you've moved since you last voted, you must update your voter registration information in order to receive your ballot in the next election.

For your convenience, you may update your information online, by telephone, or by mail.



### Online

If you've moved within the same county, you can change your address online. Visit [www.vote.wa.gov](http://www.vote.wa.gov) and click on "MyVote" and follow the instructions on the screen.



### Telephone

You may also call your county elections department to update your mailing address if you moved within the same county. County contact information can be found in the back of this pamphlet or in the government section of your local phone book.



### Mail

If you've moved to a different county, you must fill out a new voter registration form and mail it in. Voter registration forms can be downloaded at [www.vote.wa.gov](http://www.vote.wa.gov) and are also available at county and state offices such as your county elections department, the Department of Licensing, or your local library.

# **COWLITZ COUNTY 2007 LOCAL VOTERS PAMPHLET**



## **General Election November 6, 2007 Cowlitz County, Washington**

Published by: Cowlitz County Auditor, KRISTINA K. SWANSON

### Participating Jurisdictions:

Port of Kalama, Port of Longview, Port of Woodland, City of Castle Rock,  
City of Kalama, City of Kelso, City of Longview, City of Woodland,  
Longview School District, Toutle Lake School District, Castle Rock School District,  
Kalama School District, Woodland School District, Kelso School District,  
Fire Protection District No. 1, Cowlitz 2 Fire & Rescue, Fire Protection District No. 3,  
Fire Protection District No. 4, Fire Protection District No. 5,  
Fire Protection District No. 6, Fire Protection District No. 7, Cemetery District No. 1,  
Cemetery District No. 2, Cemetery District No. 3, Cemetery District No. 7,  
Beacon Hill Sewer District, Woodland Swimming Pool & Recreation,  
Lexington Flood Control Zone District

## PREAMBLE TO LOCAL VOTERS PAMPHLET

Dear Voters:

I am pleased to bring you the Local Voters Pamphlet for the 2007 General Election. This pamphlet is designed to provide information about candidates seeking to represent you, your tax dollars, and general public safety in Cowlitz County. The candidates elected to each port district, city, and special purpose taxing district will have a direct impact on the effectiveness of our local government and tax dollars. I encourage you to take some time to read through the candidate and issue statements in order to familiarize yourself with them. In addition, the entire text of all measures has been reproduced.

I know it will help you in understanding your local government and in making your choices of representatives.

Sincerely,

Kristina K. Swanson  
Cowlitz County Auditor

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## CONTACT THE ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT

By mail:	Cowlitz County Elections Department 207 North 4th Avenue Room 107 Kelso, WA 98626	By Phone:	360-577-3005
		Toll Free:	877-400-7687
		Fax:	360-442-7879

Website:	<a href="http://www.co.cowlitz.wa.us/elections">www.co.cowlitz.wa.us/elections</a>
E-mail:	<a href="mailto:elections@co.cowlitz.wa.us">elections@co.cowlitz.wa.us</a>

## OBTAINING AN OFFICIAL OR REPLACEMENT BALLOT

Official ballots will be mailed by Friday, October 19, 2007.

Official ballots will be available in the Elections Office beginning October 17, 2007.

Replacement ballots: Contact the Elections Department if your ballot is damaged or lost. A replacement ballot may be mailed or picked up in person, beginning October 24, 2007, through Election Day, November 6, 2007. Please allow one week for delivery delays prior to requesting a replacement ballot by mail.

**COWLITZ COUNTY IS ENTIRELY VOTE BY MAIL. To receive official Election Mail in a timely manner; keep the Elections Department informed on changes to your name, address, military status, if you travel annually, or if you are away from home at college.**

**Ballots are NOT FORWARDED.** The Elections Department can mail your ballot directly to you while you are away from your place of residence, just be sure to notify the Elections Department of your new mailing address.

## BALLOT DROP OFF LOCATIONS

You may return your ballot at the Cowlitz County Elections Department, 207 North Fourth Avenue, Room 107, Kelso, Monday through Friday, from 7:00 am to 5:00 pm, beginning October 17, 2007. To be valid, return your **VOTED** ballot no later than 8:00 pm, Election Day, November 6, 2007.

Five (5) curbside ballot drop boxes will be available 24 hours per day 20 days prior to the General Election, beginning October 17, 2007, through November 6, 2007, at 8:00 pm. Curbside ballot drop boxes are located at:

**Longview**— Civic Circle, across from Broadway Ave, near the Post Office boxes.

**Kelso**— 3rd Ave, between Allen and Academy, near the Kelso Post Office boxes.

**Woodland**— city parking lot, Davidson and 2nd Street, near Utility Payment Drop Box.

**Castle Rock**— Cowlitz Street and 1st Ave. SW, near Hattie's restaurant.

**Kalama**— North 1st Street, near the Post Office boxes.

## ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FOR VOTERS WITH DISABILITIES

**AutoMARK ballot marking machines will be available for the General Election, beginning Wednesday, October 17, 2007, at the Cowlitz County Auditor's Office.**

These machines provide privacy and accessibility to voters who are blind, vision impaired, or have a disability or condition that would make it difficult or impossible to mark a ballot in the usual way.

**VOTERS SHOULD BRING THEIR OFFICIAL BALLOTING MATERIALS RECEIVED IN THE MAIL WITH THEM TO CAST THEIR BALLOT.**

Election Officials will be available to provide instructions and assistance as needed. Contact the Elections Department for more information.



### AVAILABILITY INFORMATION

**WHERE:** Elections Office  
Cowlitz County Administration Building  
207 Fourth Avenue North, Room 107  
Kelso, WA 98626

**WHEN:** Beginning October 17, 2007, through Election Day, November 6, 2007

**CONTACT:** The Elections Department, 360-577-3005

Note to Voters: The following Sample Ballot contains all candidates and measures certified to appear in the General Election to be held on November 6, 2007. You will not be entitled to vote on all races and issues that appear on this Sample Ballot. When you receive your ballot only the contests and measures that apply to your precinct will be listed.

## COWLITZ COUNTY— SAMPLE BALLOT GENERAL ELECTION, NOVEMBER 6, 2007

<b>MARKING YOUR BALLOT</b>	<b>Passed by the Legislature and Ordered Referred by Petition REFERENDUM MEASURE 67</b>	<b>Proposed to the People by the Legislature Amendment to the State Constitution SUBSTITUTE HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 4215</b>
<p><b>Use only pencil or black pen.</b></p> <p><b>To vote — completely blacken the oval.</b></p> <p><b>Do not make a check-mark or an "X" to vote.</b> An "X" over a blackened oval indicates you do not wish to have that selection counted. <b>If you change your mind after voting your ballot,</b> request a replacement ballot. <u>Or,</u> you may cross over the unwanted selection with an "X". Then, completely blacken the oval to the left of your new selection. <b>Do not erase.</b></p> <p><b>Two or more ovals filled in for the same race/measure will invalidate your vote for that race/measure.</b> Cross out the marked oval you did not wish to select using an "X".</p> <p><b>To obtain a replacement ballot,</b> if your original ballot has been destroyed or lost, contact the Cowlitz County Elections Department, prior to 8:00 p.m., Election Day at: <a href="mailto:Elections@co.cowlitz.wa.us">Elections@co.cowlitz.wa.us</a> or (360) 577-3005.</p> <p><b>Signatures or written comments on the ballot may invalidate your ballot.</b></p> <p><b>Leaving an oval blank,</b> or not voting on a race/measure, will not invalidate your ballot.</p> <p><b>Only vote for the number allowed.</b> Voting for more than the number of allowed selections, stated above each selection area, will be considered an over-vote and will not be counted in that race/measure.</p> <p><b>To vote for a candidate not listed in a race,</b> write the name of the candidate and party affiliation, if applicable, on the blank line provided at the bottom of each race. Then, completely blacken the oval to the left of the write-in candidate. <b>NOTICE:</b> Attempting to vote when not entitled, attempting to vote more than once, or falsely signing this oath is a felony, punishable by maximum imprisonment of five years, a maximum fine of \$10,000, or both. (RCW 29A.84.680)</p>	<p>The legislature passed Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5726 (ESSB 5726) concerning insurance fair conduct related to claims for coverage or benefits and voters have filed a sufficient referendum petition on this bill.</p> <p>This bill would make it unlawful for insurers to unreasonably deny certain coverage claims, and permit treble damages plus attorney fees for that and other violations. Some health insurance carriers would be exempt.</p> <p>Should this bill be:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Approved</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Rejected</p>	<p>The legislature has proposed a constitutional amendment on investment of higher education permanent funds.</p> <p>This amendment would authorize the investment of money in higher education permanent funds as permitted by law, and would permit investment in stocks or bonds issued by any company, if authorized by law.</p> <p>Should this constitutional amendment be:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Approved</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Rejected</p>
<p><b>Proposed by Initiative Petition INITIATIVE MEASURE 960</b></p> <p>Initiative Measure No. 960 concerns tax and fee increases imposed by state government.</p> <p>This measure would require two-thirds legislative approval or voter approval for tax increases, legislative approval of fee increases, certain published information on tax-increasing bills, and advisory votes on taxes enacted without voter approval.</p> <p>Should this measure be enacted into law?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No</p>	<p><b>Proposed to the People by the Legislature Amendment to the State Constitution ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 8206</b></p> <p>The legislature has proposed a constitutional amendment on establishment of a budget stabilization account.</p> <p>This amendment would require the legislature to transfer 1% of general state revenues to a budget stabilization account each year and prohibit expenditures from the account except as set forth in the amendment.</p> <p>Should this constitutional amendment be:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Approved</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Rejected</p>	<p><b>19th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT SENATOR Vote for 1 = 1 Year Unexpired Term</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Brian Hatfield D</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Jesse Ashe R</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>
<p><b>Proposed by Initiative Petition INITIATIVE MEASURE 960</b></p> <p>Initiative Measure No. 960 concerns tax and fee increases imposed by state government.</p> <p>This measure would require two-thirds legislative approval or voter approval for tax increases, legislative approval of fee increases, certain published information on tax-increasing bills, and advisory votes on taxes enacted without voter approval.</p> <p>Should this measure be enacted into law?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No</p>	<p><b>Proposed to the People by the Legislature Amendment to the State Constitution SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 8212</b></p> <p>The legislature has proposed a constitutional amendment on inmate labor.</p> <p>This amendment would authorize state-operated inmate labor programs and programs in which inmate labor is used by private entities through state contracts, and prohibit privately operated programs from unfairly competing with Washington businesses.</p> <p>Should this constitutional amendment be:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Approved</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Rejected</p>	<p><b>PORT OF KALAMA COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 2 Vote for 1 = 6 Year Term</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Russ B. LaRoy NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> James D. Lucas NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>
<p><b>Proposed by Initiative Petition INITIATIVE MEASURE 960</b></p> <p>Initiative Measure No. 960 concerns tax and fee increases imposed by state government.</p> <p>This measure would require two-thirds legislative approval or voter approval for tax increases, legislative approval of fee increases, certain published information on tax-increasing bills, and advisory votes on taxes enacted without voter approval.</p> <p>Should this measure be enacted into law?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No</p>	<p><b>Proposed to the People by the Legislature Amendment to the State Constitution ENGROSSED HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 4204</b></p> <p>The legislature has proposed a constitutional amendment on school district tax levies.</p> <p>This amendment would provide for approval of school district excess property tax levies by simple majority vote of participating voters, and would eliminate supermajority approval requirements based on voter turnout in previous elections.</p> <p>Should this constitutional amendment be:</p> <p>Approved</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Approved</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Rejected</p>	<p><b>PORT OF LONGVIEW COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 1 Vote for 1 = 2 Year Unexpired Term</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Roger Allen NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Darold D. Dietz NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>
<p><b>Proposed by Initiative Petition INITIATIVE MEASURE 960</b></p> <p>Initiative Measure No. 960 concerns tax and fee increases imposed by state government.</p> <p>This measure would require two-thirds legislative approval or voter approval for tax increases, legislative approval of fee increases, certain published information on tax-increasing bills, and advisory votes on taxes enacted without voter approval.</p> <p>Should this measure be enacted into law?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No</p>	<p><b>Proposed to the People by the Legislature Amendment to the State Constitution ENGROSSED HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 4204</b></p> <p>The legislature has proposed a constitutional amendment on school district tax levies.</p> <p>This amendment would provide for approval of school district excess property tax levies by simple majority vote of participating voters, and would eliminate supermajority approval requirements based on voter turnout in previous elections.</p> <p>Should this constitutional amendment be:</p> <p>Approved</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Approved</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Rejected</p>	<p><b>PORT OF LONGVIEW COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 3 Vote for 1 = 6 Year Term</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Bob Bagaason NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> J. Walter Barham NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>
<p><b>Proposed by Initiative Petition INITIATIVE MEASURE 960</b></p> <p>Initiative Measure No. 960 concerns tax and fee increases imposed by state government.</p> <p>This measure would require two-thirds legislative approval or voter approval for tax increases, legislative approval of fee increases, certain published information on tax-increasing bills, and advisory votes on taxes enacted without voter approval.</p> <p>Should this measure be enacted into law?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No</p>	<p><b>Proposed to the People by the Legislature Amendment to the State Constitution ENGROSSED HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 4204</b></p> <p>The legislature has proposed a constitutional amendment on school district tax levies.</p> <p>This amendment would provide for approval of school district excess property tax levies by simple majority vote of participating voters, and would eliminate supermajority approval requirements based on voter turnout in previous elections.</p> <p>Should this constitutional amendment be:</p> <p>Approved</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Approved</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Rejected</p>	<p><b>PORT OF WOODLAND COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 2 Vote for 1 = 6 Year Term</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Jerry Peterson NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Barbara A. Karnis NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>
<b>VOTE BOTH SIDES</b>		

<p align="center"><b>CITY OF CASTLE ROCK MAYOR Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Barbara L. Larsen NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Charles H. Jones NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p align="center"><b>CITY OF KELSO COUNCIL POSITION 4 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> David Futcher NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> James Webb NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p align="center"><b>CITY OF WOODLAND MAYOR Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> John "JJ" Burke NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Chuck Blum NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>
<p align="center"><b>CITY OF CASTLE ROCK COUNCIL POSITION 3 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> John Earl Queen NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p align="center"><b>CITY OF KELSO COUNCIL POSITION 5 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Patricia Lynn Seidl NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Joe B. Wheeler Jr. NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p align="center"><b>CITY OF WOODLAND COUNCIL POSITION 3 Vote for 1 = 2 Year Unexpired Term</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Gene L. Silvey NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Marilee McCall NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>
<p align="center"><b>CITY OF CASTLE ROCK COUNCIL POSITION 4 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> John A. Reilly NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p align="center"><b>CITY OF KELSO COUNCIL POSITION 6 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Danny L. Sears NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> D. Alan Slater NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p align="center"><b>CITY OF WOODLAND COUNCIL POSITION 4 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Aaron Christopherson NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Al Swindell NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>
<p align="center"><b>CITY OF CASTLE ROCK COUNCIL POSITION 5 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Michael B. Mask NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p align="center"><b>CITY OF KELSO COUNCIL POSITION 7 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Dan Myers NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Mark Chester NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p align="center"><b>CITY OF WOODLAND COUNCIL POSITION 5 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> James Tone NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>
<p align="center"><b>CITY OF CASTLE ROCK PROPOSITION NO. 1</b></p> <p>Shall the City of Castle Rock, Washington, be authorized to levy an excess property tax in the year 2007 for collection in 2008 of \$0.50 per \$1,000 of full assessed value for a total assessment of \$42,079 for the purpose of providing public library services to the citizens of Castle Rock?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No</p>	<p align="center"><b>CITY OF LONGVIEW COUNCIL POSITION 1 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Aurora Greenwood NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Kurt Afagnostou NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p align="center"><b>LONGVIEW SCHOOL DISTRICT #122 DIRECTOR POSITION 3 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Skip Urling NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>
<p align="center"><b>CITY OF KALAMA COUNCIL POSITION 1 Vote for 1 = 2 Year Unexpired Term</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Adam Smee NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p align="center"><b>CITY OF LONGVIEW COUNCIL POSITION 2 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Chuck Wallace NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Ramona Leber NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p align="center"><b>LONGVIEW SCHOOL DISTRICT #122 DIRECTOR POSITION 4 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Carl S. Degner NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Barb Westrick NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>
<p align="center"><b>CITY OF KALAMA COUNCIL POSITION 3 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Chuck Hutchinson NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p align="center"><b>CITY OF LONGVIEW COUNCIL POSITION 3 Vote for 1 = 4 Year and Short Term</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Chet Makinster NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Kenneth R. Botero NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p align="center"><b>LONGVIEW SCHOOL DISTRICT #122 DIRECTOR POSITION 5 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Jennifer Leach NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>
<p align="center"><b>CITY OF KALAMA COUNCIL POSITION 4 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Donald W. Purvis NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p align="center"><b>CITY OF LONGVIEW COUNCIL POSITION 4 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Benjamin Harrison NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Don Jensen NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p align="center"><b>TOUTLE LAKE SCHOOL DISTRICT #130 DIRECTOR DISTRICT 1 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Russ Hovey NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>
<p align="center"><b>CITY OF KALAMA COUNCIL POSITION 5 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Bud Gish NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p align="center"><b>CITY OF LONGVIEW COUNCIL POSITION 4 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Benjamin Harrison NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Don Jensen NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p align="center"><b>TOUTLE LAKE SCHOOL DISTRICT #130 DIRECTOR DISTRICT 2 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> Art Carney NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>

**VOTE BOTH SIDES**

<p><b>TOUTLE LAKE SCHOOL DISTRICT #130</b> DIRECTOR DISTRICT 4 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Walter R. "Cam" Hanna NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p><b>KELSO SCHOOL DISTRICT #458</b> DIRECTOR POSITION 3 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Bob Simmons NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p><b>FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 3</b> COMMISSIONER POSITION 2 Vote for 1 = 6 Year Term</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Mark A. Maker NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>
<p><b>CASTLE ROCK SCHOOL DISTRICT #401</b> DIRECTOR DISTRICT 3 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Glen A. Paget NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p><b>KELSO SCHOOL DISTRICT #458</b> DIRECTOR POSITION 4 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Diane L. Dick NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p><b>FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 3</b> COMMISSIONER POSITION 3 Vote for 1 = 2 Year Unexpired Term</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Curtis Dorcheus NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> H.F. "Butch" Brenaman Jr. NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>
<p><b>CASTLE ROCK SCHOOL DISTRICT #401</b> DIRECTOR DISTRICT 5 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Gayle Baker NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p><b>KELSO SCHOOL DISTRICT #458</b> DIRECTOR POSITION 5 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Roy H. Parsons NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p><b>FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4</b> COMMISSIONER POSITION 1 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Unexpired Term</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Alfred L. Gulliford Jr. NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>
<p><b>KALAMA SCHOOL DISTRICT #402</b> DIRECTOR DISTRICT 2 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</p> <p><input type="radio"/> David Dwight Walker NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p><b>FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 1</b> COMMISSIONER POSITION 2 Vote for 1 = 2 Year Unexpired Term</p> <p><input type="radio"/> David Pietz NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p><b>FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4</b> COMMISSIONER POSITION 3 Vote for 1 = 6 Year &amp; Short Term</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Linda Hunt NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>
<p><b>KALAMA SCHOOL DISTRICT #402</b> DIRECTOR DISTRICT 3 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Wesley R. Eader Sr. NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p><b>FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 1</b> COMMISSIONER POSITION 3 Vote for 1 = 6 Year Term</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Kirk B. Northcut Sr. NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p><b>FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 5</b> COMMISSIONER POSITION 3 Vote for 1 = 6 Year Term</p> <p><input type="radio"/> David Wyman NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>
<p><b>KALAMA SCHOOL DISTRICT #402</b> DIRECTOR DISTRICT 5 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Russ Ipock NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p><b>COWLITZ 2 FIRE &amp; RESCUE</b> COMMISSIONER POSITION 2 Vote for 1 = 6 Year Term</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Jeff Cameron NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p><b>FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 6</b> COMMISSIONER POSITION 2 Vote for 1 = 6 Year Term</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Ed Roller Jr. NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Marc Kranz NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>
<p><b>WOODLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT #404</b> DIRECTOR DISTRICT 1 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Jimmy L. Bays NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p><b>COWLITZ 2 FIRE &amp; RESCUE</b> COMMISSIONER POSITION 5 Vote for 1 = 6 Year Term</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Jon Olson NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p><b>FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 7</b> COMMISSIONER POSITION 1 Vote for 1 = 6 Year Term</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Walter A. Black NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>
<p><b>WOODLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT #404</b> DIRECTOR DISTRICT 2 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Janice Watts NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> James W. "Jim" Yount NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p><b>PROPOSITION NO. 1</b> COWLITZ 2 FIRE &amp; RESCUE LEVY LID LIFT</p> <p>The Board of Commissioners of Cowlitz 2 Fire &amp; Rescue adopted Resolution No. 657-2007 concerning an increase in the District's regular property tax levy. To provide revenues necessary to meet the maintenance and operation expenses of the District, this proposition would allow the district to restore its regular property tax levy to \$1.50 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation for collection in 2008, and authorize setting the limit factor at 103 percent for each of the five succeeding years, provided that the regular property tax rate shall not exceed \$1.50 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation. Should this proposition be:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Approved</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Rejected</p>	<p><b>CEMETERY DISTRICT NO. 1</b> COMMISSIONER POSITION 3 Vote for 1 = 6 Year Term</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Joanne Purvis NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> John F. King NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>
<p><b>WOODLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT #404</b> DIRECTOR DISTRICT 3 Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Sandra Tone NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> Approved</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Rejected</p>	<p><b>CEMETERY DISTRICT NO. 2</b> COMMISSIONER POSITION 1 Vote for 1 = 2 Year Unexpired Term</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Shirley M. Wertman NP</p> <p><input type="radio"/> _____</p>
		<p><b>VOTE BOTH SIDES</b></p>

**CEMETERY DISTRICT NO. 2  
COMMISSIONER POSITION 3  
Vote for 1 = 6 Year Term**

Walter Church Jr. NP

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**CEMETERY DISTRICT NO. 3  
COMMISSIONER POSITION 3  
Vote for 1 = 6 Year Term**

Gary L. Kessler NP

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**CEMETERY DISTRICT NO. 7  
COMMISSIONER POSITION 2  
Vote for 1 = 6 Year Term**

Robert A. Sudar NP

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**BEACON HILL SEWER DISTRICT  
COMMISSIONER POSITION 2  
Vote for 1 = 6 Year Term**

Ted Branch NP

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**WOODLAND SWIMMING POOL & REC.  
COMMISSIONER POSITION 1  
Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term**

Todd Dinehart NP

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**WOODLAND SWIMMING POOL & REC.  
COMMISSIONER POSITION 3  
Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term**

Kimberly Zumstein NP

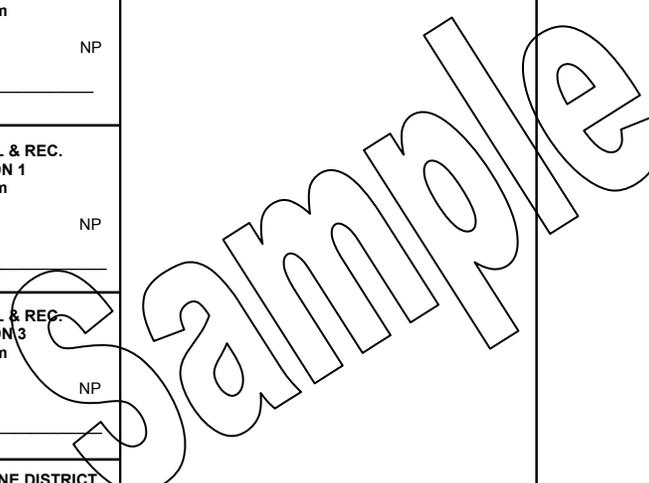
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**LEXINGTON FLOOD CONTROL ZONE DISTRICT  
SUPERVISOR POSITION 2  
Vote for 1 = 4 Year Term**

Brian Wesemann NP

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**VOTE BOTH SIDES**

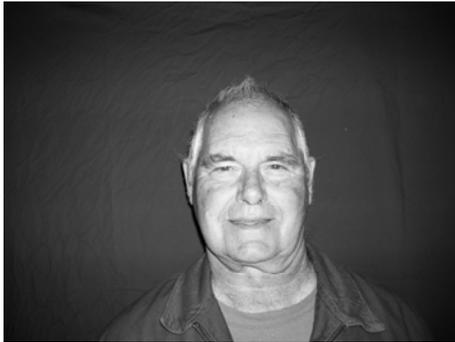


**PORT DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS**

The port districts of Cowlitz County were established for acquisition, operation, development, and regulation of commercial air, water, and rail transportation. The commission also oversees harbor and industrial improvements, including terminal facilities, facilitating trade promotion, tourism enhancement, industrial development, and establishing foreign trade zones.

Port districts are empowered to levy taxes and special local improvement assessments to create incidental park and recreation facilities, adopt and enforce regulations relating to moorage and toll facilities, and to cooperate with counties and cities in applying general police and traffic regulations to port properties and operations. The commissioners set objectives, policies and overall port direction through comprehensive plans.

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**Ross B. LaRoy**  
Nonpartisan

I have worked, fished, and boated on the Columbia River for 60 years, with the knowledge and understanding of the Columbia River that I have obtained through out the years. I believe this would be a great asset to the Port of Kalama. I've been employed in middle management in the past. I believe that my knowledge from that job position would help me and others in the port commissioner's position. Thank you for your consideration.



**James D. Lucas**  
Nonpartisan

I am filing for re-election with the goal of continuing my efforts to better our community through the activities of the Port. I will also continue to take responsibility for insuring that our community has control over our future in this fast moving growth we are experiencing. I am committed to continuing the development of the Port's industrial parks and recreational parks where we have been successful both in providing jobs and recreational opportunities for our community. I remain committed to doing the Port's work without asking for taxes from our citizens.

**PORT DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS CONTD.**

<b>P O R T  O F  L O N G V I E W  C O M M I S S I O N E R  D I S T R I C T  1</b>	 <p><b>Roger Allen Nonpartisan</b></p>	<p>Keep Roger at the Port. The Port of Longview is one of the largest economic drivers of Cowlitz County. It is estimated that more than 13,000 jobs are affected by the port. In 2006 the Port of Longview operating revenue was in excess of 18 million dollars.</p> <p>As Port Commissioner I bring experience to the port in several areas: Business Management, Goal Setting, Marketing, Negotiating, Balance, Land Development.</p> <p>Being a Port Commissioner allows me to work towards the continued growth and well being of the port.</p> <p>The end result of a successful port is prosperity to Cowlitz County.</p>
	 <p><b>Darold D. Dietz Nonpartisan</b></p>	<p>I grew up in Longview and graduated from RA Long HS. I am a Vietnam Veteran. I have been married 39 years and have 3 sons and 2 grandchildren.</p> <p>I was in business with my brother for 25 years. For the past 13 years I have worked on the waterfront. I have sat on numerous county boards including Economic Development Council, County Weed Board, County Diking District, and just recently finished 8 years on the Longshore Credit Union Board of Directors.</p> <p>As your Port Commissioner, I support growth coupled with improvement of facilities and equipment and tax money accountability.</p>

**PORT DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS CONTD.**

<b>P O R T  O F  L O N G V I E W  C O M M I S S I O N E R  D I S T R I C T  3</b>	 <p><b>Bob Bagaason</b> Nonpartisan</p>	<p>I am a candidate for Port of Longview Commissioner, Position 3. My wife and I, along with our children, have called this area home for thirty years. I've worked as a traffic safety coordinator, teacher, and coach for the Longview School District before retiring four years ago. I'm running for this position because I believe the Port has the potential to improve our local economy. Continued diversification, strong teamwork, and improved communications with our business partners will strengthen our position on the Columbia River. I pledge to be an active commissioner and listen to your concerns.</p>
	 <p><b>J. Walter Barham</b> Nonpartisan</p>	<p>I have gained experience that I want to continue to share with the community as your Longview Port Commissioner.</p> <p>Currently President Longview Port Commission Member Cowlitz County of Governments Longview first City Manager, 19 years Graduate OSU in Civil Engineering</p> <p>I want to continue giving back to the community with my time and experience to stimulate the economy and provide living wage jobs and complete our present negotiations for a major grain export terminal which will provide a revenue stream that can lower our tax rate, pay down our general obligation bonds while maintaining Port infrastructure.</p>

**PORT DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS CONTD.**

<b>P O R T  O F  W O O D L A N D  C O M M I S S I O N E R  D I S T R I C T  2</b>	 <p><b>Jerry Peterson</b> <b>Nonpartisan</b></p>	<p>NO STATEMENT SUBMITTED</p>
	 <p><b>Barbara A. Karnis</b> <b>Nonpartisan</b></p>	<p>To most people the Port of Woodland is a mystery. Many do not know the responsibilities of the Commissioners. I would like to see the Port of Woodland become more visible to our community. There needs to be better communication about what the Port does and what is its value to the citizens of our area. I have the time to devote to research regarding Port matters, I will attend local, regional and national meetings and would like to see an area news column regarding Port business become a part of our local paper. The Port needs me.</p>

**CITY OF CASTLE ROCK MAYOR**

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**Barbara L. Larsen**  
**Nonpartisan**

Barbara L Larsen 71, widow 1997.  
 Graduated Kelso High School 1955.  
 Graduated St. Peters School of Nursing 1958.  
 Mother of two grown children plus one stepson  
 and one Foster son.  
 40 plus years as a Foster parent to over 200 new-  
 born babies, specializing in drug affected and sick  
 babies.  
 I attend United Methodist Church and Castle Rock  
 Senior Center, Sunnyside grange.  
 Retired from Dairy Farming.  
 Spent the last 42 plus years on local school  
 boards and councils and Castle Rock Mayor  
 Regional transportation, council of government,  
 Cowlitz County Health Advisory board, and CAP.



**Charles H. Jones**  
**Nonpartisan**

Charles Jones; a new face and change for our  
 city, twenty-seven years old and not a career poli-  
 tician, simply a fresh mind on current and antici-  
 pated challenges facing the city. Priorities are in-  
 suring that our emergency services professionals  
 have adequate equipment, personnel, funding,  
 and resources needed too make our neighbor-  
 hoods safe. Increase and improve the infrastruc-  
 ture and encourage light industrial growth as well  
 as the continuation of housing developments.  
 Guaranteeing jobs and growth while maintaining  
 that hometown uniqueness of Castle Rock, and  
 continued revitalization of downtown, making our  
 city a beautiful place to live and raise our families.

CITY OF CASTLE ROCK

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**John Earl Queen**  
**Nonpartisan**

I have lived in Castle Rock for the past 38 years. I have been married for 31 years; our son graduated from Castle Rock high and is presently a member of the Castle Rock Police Department.

I have worked at Weyerhaeuser for the past 43 years and have held various positions of leadership. I presently hold the position of Power House Recovery Operator.

I have been interested in our city government for some time. With my upcoming retirement from Weyerhaeuser I have come to a point in my life where I can contribute more to the future of Castle Rock.

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**John A. Reilly**  
**Nonpartisan**

I was in the Navy for 26 years and held increasingly responsible positions of leadership. I have been married for 32 years and have a son in Navy. I have lived here for 5 years and have enjoyed the friendliness and the small town atmosphere of Castle Rock. I am interested in being a part of the future of Castle Rock and I feel that with my background in leadership both in the Navy and the working community that I would be able to contribute to the town's future in a constructive manner.

CITY OF CASTLE ROCK

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**Michael B. Mask**  
**Nonpartisan**

I've always said, "To make a difference in anything, you must be part of something". Eleven Years ago, while in the Army, I was taught many leadership skills. It showed me how to take responsibility for my country and the place I live. I have felt called to serve in the city government and help where I can. Also, with my faith, God has shown me how to be true to myself and others and to lead with integrity. With all of this, I'm ready and will do my part to help bring change to the city of Castle Rock.

**CITY OF CASTLE ROCK LIBRARY LEVY**

**Official Ballot Title:**

CITY OF CASTLE ROCK  
PROPOSITION NO. 1

Shall the City of Castle Rock, Washington, be authorized to levy an excess property tax in the year 2007 for collection in 2008 of \$0.50 per \$1,000 of full assessed value for a total assessment of \$42,079 for the purpose of providing public library services to the citizens of Castle Rock?

**EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**

The levy is needed to fund the Castle Rock Library. Costs of operation of the library have been minimized. There is, however, a budget deficit for next year's operation.

**STATEMENT SUPPORTING RESOLUTION**

Castle Rock property owners are asked to approve a one-year levy of 50 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation to fund a proposed library budget of \$42,079 for the year 2008. This levy would replace the levy amount that funded the 2007 library budget.

The levy, which would cost the owner of a \$100,000 home \$50, would enable the library to remain open 36 hours a week. It includes money for librarian and assistant librarian wages, utilities, supplies, some books, postage, telephone, insurance, and related operating costs. Voter approval would provide continued free public Internet access, as well as access to the local newspaper, income tax forms and other informational publications.

Castle Rock's library has over 18,000 volumes of fiction, non-fiction, children's books, videos, books on tape, and reference materials. Adults may take advantage of the opportunity for recreational and informational reading, and children can expand their reading horizons through the library's summer reading program. No additional fee is required for City tax payers to hold a library card and anyone outside the city limits can obtain one for a nominal fee.

Not only is Castle Rock's library vital to the community, but healthy libraries are important to new businesses when they consider moving into the area. Studies have shown that library access helps to educate voters, encourages employment, and discourages crime and substance abuse.

We urge voters to approve this levy.

**Statement Prepared By Bud May and Marsha Quigley**

**STATEMENT OPPOSING RESOLUTION**

NO STATEMENT SUBMITTED

**CITY OF CASTLE ROCK LIBRARY LEVY**

**Complete Text of Resolution:**

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-04

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CASTLE ROCK HAS, BY RESOLUTION DETERMINED TO ASK QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE CITY OF CASTLE ROCK, WASHINGTON, TO FUND BY SPECIAL EXCESS LEVY THE FURNISHING OF PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICES TO THE CITIZENS OF CASTLE ROCK AND WILL SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING QUESTION: WHETHER OR NOT A SPECIAL EXCISE LEVY ON REAL PROPERTY SHALL BE HAD FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING LIBRARY SERVICES TO THE CITIZENS OF CASTLE ROCK DURING THE YEAR 2008.

WHEREAS, the expected revenues coming to the General Fund of the City of Castle Rock during the year 2008 are inadequate to absorb the expenses of furnishing public library services to the citizens of Castle Rock without impairing the obligation of labor and other contracts, and at the same time provide the other essential services to the citizens which are supported by the General Fund; and

WHEREAS, no other funds are available to defray the costs and expenses of the operation and maintenance of the library; and

WHEREAS, to adequately fund the furnishing of library services during the year 2008, the monies will have to come from a source other than General Fund; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and necessary to raise the required funds by an excess levy if approved by the voter of the City of Castle Rock at the General Election to be held November 6, 2007, and, if passed, levied in 2007 for collection in 2008, now therefore,

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CASTLE ROCK DO HEREBY RESOLVE:

1. That the following proposition be placed on the ballot of the election to be held November 6, 2007, to wit:

PROPOSITION NO. 1

Shall the City of Castle Rock, Washington, be authorized to levy an excess property tax in the year 2007 for collection in 2008 of \$0.50 per \$1,000 of full assessed value for a total assessment of \$42,079 for the purpose of providing public library services to the citizens of Castle Rock?

Yes\_\_\_\_\_

No\_\_\_\_\_

2. The City Clerk-Treasurer is authorized and directed to present a duplicate original of this Resolution to the Cowlitz County Auditor, as supervisor of elections, by no later than August 14, 2007, which is eighty-four days prior to the November 6, 2007 State General Election; to request said officer to submit the above proposition to the qualified voters of the City of Castle Rock at an election to be called in conjunction with the November 6, 2007 General Election, and to take all actions and do all things necessary to cause the ballot proposition described above to be submitted properly to the qualified electors of the city at the November 6, 2007 General Election.

ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Castle Rock and signed by the Mayor on this 9th day of July, 2007.

CITY OF KALAMA

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**Adam Smee**  
**Nonpartisan**

NO STATEMENT SUBMITTED

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**Chuck Hutchinson**  
**Nonpartisan**

NO STATEMENT SUBMITTED

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**Donald W. Purvis**  
**Nonpartisan**

Don Purvis is a strong presence in Kalama. He is a current City Council member, and currently serving as an actively involved Director of Kalama's Chamber of Commerce. As a member of the Envision Kalama Foundation, and the founder of the annual Kalama Days of Discovery event, he is a strong supporter for cultural recognition. Being a person with insight and vision, he is a member of the Cowlitz County Tourism Advisory Committee, and has been active in bringing tourism to Kalama. Don is also serving as the City of Kalama representative to the Cowlitz County Health Advisory Board.

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**Bud Gish**  
**Nonpartisan**

I am Bud Gish and I'm running for council position 5, City of Kalama. I'm "66" years old and have lived in Kalama for 45 years. My wife Patti has lived here her whole life. We have four children and ten grandchildren. I served six years in the army and fifteen years as President of local 970, IBEW and Trustee for the Cowlitz- Wahkiakum Apprenticeship Council. Mayor of Kalama from 1998-2001 and Councilman from 2004 to present. I consider it a privilege to serve the citizens of Kalama and with your vote I will continue to serve.

CITY OF KELSO

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**David Futcher**  
**Nonpartisan**

While on the council, David has played a significant role in fostering recent development, encouraging city responsiveness to developers and builders. The upcoming reconstruction of the Tennant Way interchange will open major areas for commerce, and must be overseen by councilmembers with an appropriate background.

As a councilman, David has focused on being responsive to the citizens. He believes in open government, creating *Talking Kelso*, a website improving communication between the council and citizens. And as a certified public accountant, David has the education, experience, and relationships that will continue to enhance the business climate, attracting jobs and growth to Kelso.

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**James Webb**  
**Nonpartisan**

My name is James Webb. I grew up in Kelso and am the fourth of five generations rooted in this area. After graduating from Kelso High School, I served with the USMC and then returned to Kelso to start and raise my own family. I'm proud to call Kelso home and although I lack political savvy, I have a sense of commitment, responsibility, and concern for the future of our town. With your input, we can set the course for a strong and vibrant future in Kelso. I would appreciate your vote for Position 4 on the Kelso City Council.

CITY OF KELSO

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**Patricia Lynn Seidl**  
**Nonpartisan**

CANDIDATE PUBLICLY WITHDREW  
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**Joe B. Wheeler Jr.**  
**Nonpartisan**

NO STATEMENT SUBMITTED

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**Danny L. Sears**  
**Nonpartisan**

My name is Danny Sears, and I am a candidate for the Kelso City Council.

I have lived in the Kelso rural area most of my life, attending the schools in the district, and am a 1980 graduate of Kelso High School.

I am currently employed at Weyerhaeuser Hardwoods where I have been a millwright for the past 17 years. I am also a chairman of the onsite Safety Committee.

If elected as a member of the City Council, I will do my best to help the citizens and businesses of Kelso.

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**D. Alan Slater**  
**Nonpartisan**

My fellow citizens; my opinion after 79 years in Cowlitz County, changes in our local governments would improve our lives. All elective boards or commissioners should have 5 elective members. Where possible, all county or city roads should be connected or looped. Such as, Allen street to Rose Valley. Strong Mayor councils with city administrators to handle business.

I believe storm water utilities are a form of illegal taxation for those paying taxing districts. In this manner, government will be responsible to serving the public wishes. All of this would save our people time and money.

CITY OF KELSO

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**Dan Myers**  
**Nonpartisan**

I am a "C of Change" candidate, frustrated with how arrogant the council was when citizens petitioned for a vote on Kelso's form of Government. They first declared the petition invalid. It was rewritten, requesting only a vote on whether to continue with a city manager form of government. It was not a binding vote but a chance for citizens to express their level of support for the city manager. They said no, we will not let you vote on that, instead we will let you vote on a ward system. I want a council that listens to the people?

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**Mark Chester**  
**Nonpartisan**

I am not a government worker and I do not own my own business. I work locally in customer service and can relate to the needs of people. I am not rich and understand how to manage a budget. I have been on the audit committee watching the city's bills and making sure the city is fiscally responsible and would like to continue. I have voted on issues in a way which best represents the interests of the citizens and of the city. A vote for me represents a vote for the average citizen's voice. Thank you your support.

**CITY OF LONGVIEW**

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**Adora Greenwood  
Nonpartisan**

I came to this area over 20 years ago, loved the community and people so I stayed.

I am an average citizen working several years as a receptionist.

I'm a past CASA volunteer; a Grange member involved in the third grade dictionary program in Cowlitz County, seeing first hand the drug and crime issues and its effects in our community especially our children.

That brought me where I am today, a candidate for City Council.

I want to listen and learn to what you want to help make Longview a better place for our children and grandchildren to grow up.

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**Kurt Anagnostou  
Nonpartisan**

Kurt Anagnostou returns to the ballot after serving as your councilman for eight years. Kurt has been outspoken in his drive to hold the city accountable to all it's citizens. This experience makes Kurt knowledgeable in solving upcoming major issues facing our community, such as safe drinking water, work force development, public safety and comprehensive plan re-zoning.

Kurt, a second generation Longview native, has practiced law here for 19 years. Kurt and his wife are raising three sons. Kurt's active in service, professional, youth and religious organizations and knows the importance of a safe, livable city. He appreciates your support.

CITY OF LONGVIEW

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**Chuck Wallace**  
**Nonpartisan**

My name is Chuck Wallace and I am running for Longview City Council. I grew up in Longview and care deeply about my hometown. Critical issues that concern me are; strengthening our economic base, strengthening our community image, and strengthening our ability to respond to population growth. I have the energy and fresh ideas to address these issues. I want to take steps to make sure Longview will be a safer, cleaner, and healthier place; a place people are proud to call home. I look forward to hearing from you and ask for your vote.

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**Ramona Leber**  
**Nonpartisan**

Do you want a councilmember who is tough on crime and drugs? Ramona Leber supports the police department, the Street Crimes Unit, drug courts, and innovative treatment and incarceration options.

Do you want a councilmember who cares about kids and families? Ramona believes in and practices prevention, started the Longview Teen Council, and facilitated a task force to reduce youth suicide.

Do you want a councilmember who is a proven leader, has varied and thorough experience, listens to you, and is innovative in finding solutions? If so...

*For Experience, Leadership, and Innovation, Re-Elect Ramona Leber to the Longview City Council.*

**CITY OF LONGVIEW**

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**Chet Makinster  
Nonpartisan**

During my service on the City Council I have identified three major areas of concern for our city: Public Safety, Infrastructure, and Economic Development. Like a three-legged stool, our community stability depends on all three. With your vote, I will work on enhanced fire and police protection, improved roads, updated sanitation systems, improving our outgrown water system and helping attract more good-paying jobs. As a lifelong community member and business owner, I have experience and training in these areas and feel very strongly about getting value for our tax dollars. I ask for your vote.

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**Kenneth R. Botero  
Nonpartisan**

Ken Botero, resided in the local community for the past 40 + years and has had the opportunity to have raised three wonderful children. I have actively served the community over the past 40 years in many capacities ranging from the Longview School Board to the Southwest Washington Work Force Development Board and the Educational District 112 Board of Directors. I believe that I can and will bring a little more feeling toward accountability and dedication to the position of Council Person.

**CITY OF LONGVIEW**

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**Benjamin Harrison  
Nonpartisan**

Hello, I'm Ben Harrison. I stand for a thriving community that creates a legacy of hope for our children's children. My wife and I moved to Longview in 2000 to start our family in a community we could thrive in. Longview is a great city with a great vision. This vision is achieved by having an intentional council that generates decisions that support the entire community. As a leader and decision maker, I consider the impact my decisions have for the whole as well as the individual. To empower this vision, I invite you to consider me for City Council.

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**Don Jensen  
Nonpartisan**

As a lifelong resident of Longview, I am running for re-election to Position 4 because I believe in the future of our city. I will continue my efforts to reduce crime to the state average or below. I will work with the council to reduce meth crime with treatment and/or jail time. Highlands's revitalization is also a top priority.

I will continue to look for a larger place for our senior citizens and finish other started projects.

The qualifications that I hold valuable are integrity and honesty. I am honest and forthright in my life and city dealings.

**CITY OF WOODLAND**

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**John "JJ" Burke  
Nonpartisan**

As a Woodland City Council member and Mayor Pro-Tem for the last 6 years I have worked diligently to be available to the citizens of our city. I am a member of the Planter's Days Committee, the Park Board, and Public Safety Committee. I believe that Woodland needs a full-time mayor and I can fulfill that need. I believe our city is at a critical point where honest and clearly defined leadership are paramount. I have the ability and desire to be the leader who brings our city back on track. Please consider me for your vote.



**Chuck Blum  
Nonpartisan**

I will work to improve communication in government by insuring access, input and communication. This community needs to develop common goals, improve transportation, strive for responsible growth, move beyond the pool controversy, resolve issues in our volunteer fire department, and allow the downtown business district to reflect our history.

I've had several leadership roles in Woodland, and have 17 years of local government and experience including the Woodland Planning Commission, Park Board, City Council and the Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Governments.

The Mayor's office is a full-time responsibility, and I am available. Please vote Chuck Blum for Mayor.

**CITY OF WOODLAND**

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**Gene L. Silvey  
Nonpartisan**

I have lived in Woodland for twelve years. I have tried to keep up with the issues we have had and are having in our area. I have had forty years in management and sales in the Western United States and feel that this experience will help me to represent the citizens of Woodland. I am retired and will spend what ever time it takes to do this job. I will listen to the citizens of Woodland and I will represent the majority, not the few. I ask for your support in getting this done.

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**Marilee McCall  
Nonpartisan**

I am a fourth-generation Cowlitz County resident and have lived in Woodland almost three years, serving on your Council since October 2006. My commitment to you is to continue to thoroughly review all proposals so that decisions are based on facts and information, to assist where possible in furthering economic growth, and to protect our quality of life. I believe it is important to honor Woodland's history as our foundation, while using vision to build a strong future. I would be honored to have your vote of confidence to continue in service to our community.

**CITY OF WOODLAND**

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**Aaron Christopherson  
Nonpartisan**

Woodland is a thriving community that is experiencing many major changes and the possibilities for multiple community expansions. With a community-oriented approach, I will be able to help further the current growth, as well as facilitate and sustain the local community concept. My experiences with multiple financial institutions and various community organizations will provide great assistance to the city's needs and programs. Driven by high integrity and character principles, and established with an excellent collegiate and educational background, I will be highly motivated and ambitious to preserving the history while assisting the growth of this tremendous city.

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**Al Swindell  
Nonpartisan**

Fellow Woodlanders;

My decision to run for City Council came after attending many council meetings as well as, a great desire to serve.

I believe I can offer my many years of experience to help solve Woodland's rapid growth.

So please vote for Al Swindell for City Council position # 4.

<b>C O U N C I L  P O S I T I O N  5</b>	<b>CITY OF WOODLAND</b>	
	 <p><b>James Tone</b> <b>Nonpartisan</b></p>	<p>Having lived in Woodland for 30 years and raising 2 children with my wife, Sandy, I have a considerable amount of growth. Growth cannot be stopped, however it can be managed. Keeping up with growth and need for the additional services while remaining fiscally responsible to the tax payers is a challenge. Finding the right balance between holding the line on expenses and spending money to improve services is a task I take seriously. It is my responsibility to review information provided by staff, consultants, and citizens in making decisions that impact the quality of life in Woodland.</p>

**COWLITZ COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

Cowlitz County is divided into seven separate school districts, each governed by a five-member board of directors. A board's responsibilities include budget, policy development, classroom instruction, planning and communications.

While school board directors delegate authority for day-to-day functions to the professional staff, they may never delegate ultimate responsibility.

Voters within a school district elect board members in a non-partisan General Election. In some districts, candidates must reside in the director sub-district for which they are seeking office. All candidates are elected by the entire school district for their non-salaried four-year terms.

<b>D I R E C T O R  P O S I T I O N  3</b>	<b>LONGVIEW SCHOOL DISTRICT #122</b>	
	 <p><b>Skip Urling</b> <b>Nonpartisan</b></p>	<p>Strong leadership is important to any organization and will continue to be vital to the Longview School District's success. While student achievement is improving, opportunity remains for all of our kids to reach potential. The District is in the midst of a self examination intended to focus all its efforts to ensure that kids succeed; this effort is especially important as we transition through the Superintendent's retirement and that of several senior managers to new personnel. Continuity is crucial. I've spent the past five years working on these challenges and value your support over the next four years.</p>

**LONGVIEW SCHOOL DISTRICT #122 CONTD.**

<b>D I R E C T O R  P O S I T I O N  4</b>	 <p><b>Carl S. Degner</b> <b>Nonpartisan</b></p>	<p>I have worked and resided in the Longview area since 1998 with my wife and son. In 2003, I graduated from the Lower Columbia Leadership Academy. I am currently serving a second term on the Longview Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee, as Vice President of Cowlitz Game and Anglers, and have recently completed a three year term on the Longview School District Strategic Plan Review Committee. I have a B.S. in Biochemistry/Biophysics and a M.S. in Environmental Management.</p> <p>As a parent, I have a vested interest in helping the Longview School District provide the best education possible to our youth.</p>
	 <p><b>Barb Westrick</b> <b>Nonpartisan</b></p>	<p>As a former preschool teacher I care about the academic success of our community's children and I fully understand the importance of early childhood education. We are progressing toward our goal of student achievement and are in the process of incorporating the Baldrige System of accountability. I have not missed a single board meeting since being elected. I am proud of the district's improvements and of the fact that I have advanced the goals I set in 2003. I will appreciate the opportunity to carry on this work. I hope that you will continue to support me with your vote.</p>

**LONGVIEW SCHOOL DISTRICT #122 CONTD.**

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**Jennifer Leach  
Nonpartisan**

There are exciting opportunities ahead with changes in senior leadership. My goal is to continue the strategic focus of providing a well rounded education to meet the needs of our diverse student population to insure that our students have a variety of opportunities from academic to vocational to extra-curricular. One strategy alone does not lead to student success. This is accomplished by providing a variety of program offerings, having safe and drug free schools, and committed and caring teachers and staff, and parents who are encouraged to participate in their child's school. I look forward to the next four years.

**TOUTLE LAKE SCHOOL DISTRICT #130**

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**Russ Hovey  
Nonpartisan**

**NO STATEMENT SUBMITTED**

TOUTLE LAKE SCHOOL DISTRICT #130 CONTD.

<p>D I R E C T O R  D I S T R I C T  2</p>	<p>NO PHOTO SUBMITTED</p> <p><b>Art Carney</b> <b>Nonpartisan</b></p>	<p>NO STATEMENT SUBMITTED</p>
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<p>D I R E C T O R  D I S T R I C T  4</p>	 <p><b>Walter R. "Cam" Hanna</b> <b>Nonpartisan</b></p>	<p>NO STATEMENT SUBMITTED</p>
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CASTLE ROCK SCHOOL DISTRICT #401

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**Glen A. Paget**  
**Nonpartisan**

NO STATEMENT SUBMITTED

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**Gayle Baker**  
**Nonpartisan**

NO STATEMENT SUBMITTED

**KALAMA SCHOOL DISTRICT #402**

<b>D I R E C T O R  D I S T R I C T  2</b>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #cccccc; padding: 20px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>NO PHOTO SUBMITTED</p> </div> <p><b>David Dwight Walker</b> Nonpartisan</p>	<p>NO STATEMENT SUBMITTED</p>
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<b>D I R E C T O R  D I S T R I C T  3</b>	 <p><b>Wesley R. Eader Sr.</b> Nonpartisan</p>	<p>Wesley R. Eader Sr., Kalama School Board, District 3.          Marital Status – Married 29 years with 3 children.          Education – BBA Memphis State University, 1976          M.Div. New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, 1979          M.R.E. New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, 1981          Pastor of Kalama Baptist Church for almost 20 years. Two of my children graduated from Kalama High School, one is an eleventh grader. I believe the Kalama schools are a good place for our kids.          I pledge to team with teachers, staff, administration, other board members, volunteers, and parents to continue to provide a quality education environment that equips our students for success.</p>
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**KALAMA SCHOOL DISTRICT #402**

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NO PHOTO SUBMITTED

**Russ Ipock  
Nonpartisan**

NO STATEMENT SUBMITTED

**WOODLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT #404**

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**Jimmy L. Bays  
Nonpartisan**

It is a critical time for the Woodland School District. Rapid growth has created a critical need for new school facilities, we must continue our concerted efforts to improve student achievement, and we will be welcoming a new Superintendent to our district this coming school year. I am proud of the many positive things our schools have accomplished, but there is always more work to do. It has been an honor to serve on your School Board for the past 35 years. Please allow me to use my experience to help address the important issues we are facing. Thank you!

**WOODLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT #404 CONTD.**

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**Janice Watts  
Nonpartisan**

I have grown up in Woodland attending the Woodland schools. After graduating I worked in the banking field. Having lived in Woodland the last 17 years, my husband and I have four children in the Woodland schools. I have been a volunteer co-coordinator for the primary school. I am a concerned parent and member of the community who would like to see the best possible education for our children. As a board member I will work to see that our tax dollars are put to the best possible use in our fast growing school district.

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**James W. "Jim" Yount  
Nonpartisan**

After 20 years on the Woodland School Board my wife has decided not to seek re-election. I have decided to run for my wife's vacated position to continue our family's involvement with the District. For the years ahead I see growing enrollment, especially from the City of Woodland, as the major issue for the District. The City approves development and the School District has to make room for the students. My experience on the Woodland City Council and Planning Commission give me a unique ability to help the District work with the City to mitigate these growth effects.

**WOODLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT #404 CONTD.**

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**Sandra Tone  
Nonpartisan**

My husband Jim and I have raised two boys, Jeff and Joe in the Woodland School District. Being a school board director is more than rules and regulations. It's about charting a course for student success. Woodland is a growing community dealing with the need to expand our facilities and to provide an education for all students that will prepare them to enter the work force or continue on to college. As the community grows and our students grow in their academic achievements it is vital that we provide those resources and an environment in which to flourish.

**KELSO SCHOOL DISTRICT #458**

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**Bob Simmons  
Nonpartisan**

I appreciate the trust the community has placed in me as a member of the Kelso School Board for the past 24 years. We have faced many challenges in that time, as we will in the future.

The attention we have focused on reading and mathematics has improved student performance in those areas. Continued improvement will be needed to prepare students for the future.

We need to provide high quality education for our students while demonstrating sound financial stewardship.

These are large responsibilities and I thank you for allowing me to represent you during this important time.

**KELSO SCHOOL DISTRICT #458 CONTD.**

<b>D I R E C T O R  P O S I T I O N  4</b>	 <p><b>Diane L. Dick Nonpartisan</b></p>	<p>I believe learning and teaching are natural and joyful human activities. I will continue promoting policies and programs, locally and at state and national levels, which encourage and support authentic individual learning in basic academic skills and more broadly in the fields of fine and liberal arts, athletics, math and sciences, and career and technical education.</p> <p>My aim is for all our students to graduate from the Kelso School District with the knowledge and skills to successfully continue on their various paths to self-supporting, satisfying work and personal lives, and as engaged, astute citizens of their communities and our country.</p>
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<b>D I R E C T O R  P O S I T I O N  5</b>	 <p><b>Roy H. Parsons Nonpartisan</b></p>	<p>I seek re-election to the Kelso School Board because I believe that education is the best investment a community can make. I bring a proven record and 28 years of experience, with several terms as vice president and president of the board. I serve on the budget, facilities and planning committees. Additionally, I chair the finance committee of the Board of Washington State School Directors association. As an elected official, I will continue to work for kids; support high academic standards; programs that prepare students with skills needed for success; community involvement in district decisions; and adequate well-spent funding.</p>
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## FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

Cowlitz County contains seven fire protection districts. Fire protection districts provide fire prevention services, fire suppression and emergency medical services in the unincorporated areas of Cowlitz County. Administrative authority for the districts resides with the elected fire commissioners.

Fire protection districts, being special purpose districts, levy regular property taxes to provide services to the public. Additionally, with voter approval, the boards of fire commissioners may issue bonds and make excess levies for specific purposes.

### FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 1

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**David Pietz**  
**Nonpartisan**

As a commissioner you are a steward of the community. The responsibility is yours to ensure that the tax dollars collected are spent wisely. In times of fiscal belt tightening not only are you working for today, but trying to anticipate the needs of our district for the future. Striving to ensure the safety and well being of our community, as well as the dedicated firefighters that serve us, is my ultimate goal.

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**Kirk B. Northcut Sr.**  
**Nonpartisan**

NO STATEMENT SUBMITTED

**COWLITZ 2 FIRE & RESCUE**

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**Jeff Cameron  
Nonpartisan**

I have served as commissioner for Cowlitz 2 Fire & Rescue for six years. During that time, I have worked with other commissioners and the fire chief to strengthen the District's financial stability, improve the training and skills of our personnel, and strengthen the District's commitment to our volunteers. For the District to continue providing quality fire and emergency medical services to our citizens, the board of commissioners must progressively plan for community growth and must maintain our collaborative relationships with District staff, the union, and with Longview Fire. I would appreciate your support to continue those efforts.

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**Jon Olson  
Nonpartisan**

I look forward to continuing my position as Fire Commissioner for Cowlitz 2 Fire and Rescue. Our district's population and access is increasing and with it so will our department's EMS/Fire call activities. I will do my best to maintain and improve C2FR's ability to provide the communities needs while balancing those needs within the budget.

## COWLITZ 2 FIRE AND RESCUE LEVY LID LIFT

### Official Ballot Title:

### PROPOSITION NO. 1 COWLITZ 2 FIRE & RESCUE LEVY LID LIFT

The Board of Commissioners of Cowlitz 2 Fire & Rescue adopted Resolution No. 657-2007 concerning an increase in the District's regular property tax levy. To provide revenues necessary to meet the maintenance and operation expenses of the District, this proposition would allow the district to restore its regular property tax levy to \$1.50 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation for collection in 2008, and authorize setting the limit factor at 103 percent for each of the five succeeding years, provided that the regular property tax rate shall not exceed \$1.50 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation. Should this proposition be:

### EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Cowlitz 2 Fire and Rescue provides fire protection and emergency medical services to individuals living, working and traveling within its jurisdiction.

The District's current rate of \$1.56, which combines current regular property tax levy and the 2004 approved M&O Levy, will be reduced because the District will not collect the final year of the M&O Levy if Proposition No. 1 passes.

If voters approve the Proposition, the District will be authorized to fund these services by collecting \$1.50 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation in 2008 and by collecting 103% of the previous year's collections the following 5 years not to exceed \$1.50 per \$1,000.00 of assessed value limit.

The District Board has determined that the proposed tax levy is necessary to maintain the current level of services to keep pace with the increased calls for service to protect life and property in the District and provide for public safety.

## STATEMENT SUPPORTING RESOLUTION

Cowlitz 2 Fire & Rescue asks for your support by voting “Yes” on Proposition 1. The current combined levy for fire and emergency medical services includes \$1.36 for the regular levy and 20¢ for the maintenance and operations levy, for a total of \$1.56. If approved, the Proposition 1 levy will restore the regular levy to \$1.50 and the District has committed to NOT collect the last year of the 20¢ maintenance and operations levy. Proposition 1 limits the increase in tax revenue collected by 3% per year and state law has the limitation that the regular levy rate can NEVER be more than \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value. This REDUCES the cost to taxpayers the first year by about 6¢ per thousand dollars of property value. The Proposition 1 levy will expire after 6 years if not renewed.

The public demand for fire, rescue and EMS services continues to grow. Cowlitz 2 Fire & Rescue responds to over 4,500 calls for service annually in the City of Kelso, Rose Valley, Carrolls, Columbia Heights, West Longview, Ostrander, Lexington and Bunker Hill. This service is provided by dedicated career and volunteer responders.

In order to continue to provide highly efficient and cost effective services to our community, Cowlitz 2 Fire & Rescue needs to stabilize the tax dollars available by establishing this workable limit to tax dollars collected.

Please vote “YES” on Cowlitz 2 Fire & Rescue Fire Levy Proposition 1.

**Statement Prepared By the: Vote “Yes” Cowlitz 2 Committee**

## STATEMENT OPPOSING RESOLUTION

NO STATEMENT SUBMITTED

## COWLITZ 2 FIRE AND RESCUE LEVY LID LIFT

### **Complete Text of Resolution:**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COWLITZ 2 FIRE & RESCUE, PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT AT THE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD WITHIN THE DISTRICT ON NOVEMBER 6, 2007, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE STATE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON THE SAME DATE, OF A PROPOSITION AUTHORIZING THE LEVY OF A PROPERTY TAX NOT TO EXCEED \$1.50 PER \$1,000.00 OF TRUE AND ASSESSED VALUATION AND ESTABLISHING A SIX YEAR LIMIT FACTOR SUBJECT TO OTHERWISE APPLICABLE STATUTORY LIMITATIONS.

Background: WHEREAS, it is the judgment of the Board of Commissioners of the District that it is essential and necessary for the protection of the health and life of the residents of the District that fire and emergency medical services be provided by the District. Such services will necessitate the expenditure of revenues for personnel, equipment, operations, maintenance, and station remodel and construction, and in excess of those which can be provided by the District's regular tax revenue levied at the current rate per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation of taxable property within the District.

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has determined that the one percent limit factor established by RCW 84.55.010 will not be sufficient to provide for the expected cost increases required to maintain and increase the level of services currently provided the District.

Resolution: NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Cowlitz 2 Fire & Rescue, Cowlitz County, Washington as follows:

Section 1. In order to provide fire protection, fire prevention, and emergency medical services in the District, it is necessary for the District to provide properly trained personnel, to operate and maintain emergency fire and medical service vehicles equipped with proper fire fighting and emergency medical equipment, and to construct and remodel station facilities to house and effectively deploy such personnel, vehicles and equipment.

Section 2. In order to provide sufficient revenue to pay the costs of providing adequate life protection services and minor facilities improvements as described in Section 1 and to maintain reserve funds sufficient to assure the continuation of such services, the District shall, in accordance with RCW 84.55.050, remove the limitation on regular property taxes imposed by RCW 84.55.010 and levy beginning in 2007 and collect beginning in 2008, pursuant to RCW 52.16.130, RCW 52.16.140 and RCW 52.16.160, a general tax on taxable property within the District at a rate of \$1.50 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation subject to otherwise applicable statutory limits.

**COWLITZ 2 FIRE AND RESCUE LEVY LID LIFT**

**Complete Text of Resolution Continued:**

Section 3. In order to provide sufficient revenue to pay the costs of providing adequate life protection services and minor facilities improvements as described in Section 1 and to maintain reserve funds sufficient to assure the continuation of such services beyond 2008, the District has determined that a limit factor of 103% shall be used to determine the actual levy rate, subject to the maximum statutory rate of \$1.50 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation, in 2008-2012. The funds raised under this levy shall not supplant existing funds used for the purposes described in Section 1.

Section 4. There shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the District for their ratification or rejection, at the general election on November 6, 2007, in conjunction with the state general election to be held on the same date, the question of whether or not the regular property tax levy of the District should be restored to \$1.50 per \$1,000.00 of true and assessed valuation in 2007 and be adjusted by 103% for the following five years, subject to otherwise applicable statutory limitations. Cowlitz County, as ex-officio Supervisor of Elections, is hereby requested to call such election, and to submit the following proposition at such election, in the form of a ballot title substantially as follows:

**PROPOSITION NO. 1**  
**Cowlitz 2 Fire & Rescue – Board of Commissioners**  
**Proposition Authorizing Restoration of Previous Property Tax Levies**

The Board of Commissioners of Cowlitz 2 Fire & Rescue adopted Resolution No. 657-2007 concerning a proposition to restore its regular property tax levy for maintenance and operations to an amount not to exceed \$1.50 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation for collection in 2008 and to authorize setting the limit factor at 103% for each of the five succeeding years, except that the regular property tax levy shall not exceed \$1.50 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation for each year.

Should this Proposition be:

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

Rejected \_\_\_\_\_

**Adoption:** ADOPTED by the Board of Commissioners of Cowlitz 2 Fire & Rescue, Cowlitz County, Washington, at a regular open public meeting of such Board on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2007.

**FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 3**

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**Mark A. Maker  
Nonpartisan**

Mark A. Maker is your incumbent Position #2, CCFD #3 Fire Commissioner and is the current Chairman of the Board. Mark is a retired career firefighter with over 20 years of experience in the Fire Service, the majority of which was as an officer. Mark brings this knowledge and background to Fire District #3 and has been a driving force in many positive changes in CCFD #3. Mark has worked hard to establish many new, modernized and updated Policy and Guidelines which brings CCFD #3 up to current State and National regulations, standards and requirements.

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**Curtis Dorcheus  
Nonpartisan**

As a member of this community my desire is to help shape the services and support our fire department provides and continues the effective and capable emergency services this community deserves. I have been a part of Southwest Washington community for 25 years and have been involved with this District as a firefighter and EMT for 6 years. During my term I would work towards focusing on issues important to our community and would participate in the process of improving our equipment/services and emergency response capabilities.

**FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 3**

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**H.F. "Butch" Brenaman Jr.  
Nonpartisan**

Thank you for the opportunity to continue to serve as a Fire District 3 Commissioner. This position continues my history of service including 16 years as a School Board member and two terms with the Toutle Valley Community Council. I currently serve as an appointed District 3 Fire Commissioner. I have over a decade of experience working with local Toutle government. The fire district needs to be accountable to you the taxpayer. I promise to carefully evaluate the status of the fire district's budget and will assure that it is spent efficiently, without waste.

**FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4**

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**Alfred L. Gulliford Jr.  
Nonpartisan**

I worked for the Bell System for 42 year, and now retired.  
1997 bought a house in Ryderwood.  
Served on the R.I.S.A. board.  
Volunteered at the Vader Elementary School P.T.O.  
Helped my wife teach Sunday school at St Paul Lutheran church in Winlock, for the pasted 11 years.  
Now serving on the Vader School Board until closing 8-31-07.  
I'm serving as a nonvoting board member of the Castle Rock School district.  
I hope as fire commissioner to help and improve Fire District 4 here in Ryderwood.  
Thank you for your vote.  
Al Gulliford

**FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4**

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**Linda Hunt  
Nonpartisan**

For the past year, I have been serving as Commissioner by appointment for Fire District 4. As a citizen of a 55+ community in Ryderwood, “the town runs by volunteers”; I feel strongly about providing EMT and Fire Protection services to this remote part of the county.

During my time of service I have come to understand the needs and challenges of the district by listening to the concerns of my community and by being a strong supporter of the volunteers.

I am committed to improving services, facilities, and relationships between the community and staff at Cowlitz Fire District 4.

**FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 5**

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**David Wyman  
Nonpartisan**

I am motivated to work for the citizens of the district to enhance Fire/Rescue and EMS service in a financially responsible manner. I volunteered for the District for ten years and am very familiar with its history, strengths and challenges. As a career Firefighter for the City of Longview, I bring my continuing education and experience as an additional asset. I worked in the private sector for several years as an automotive dealer shop foreman and hold an Associates degree. I am committed to providing my community a common sense approach to management.

**FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 6**

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**Ed Roller Jr.  
Nonpartisan**

NO STATEMENT SUBMITTED

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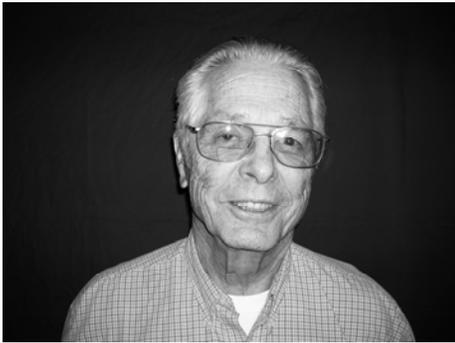


**Marc Kranz  
Nonpartisan**

My name is Marc Kranz. As a resident of Castle Rock I am interested in seeing that our Fire District 6 continues to have the capability to protect us as we grow. Approximately 70% of the calls that the Castle Rock Fire Department receive are for emergency medical services. As an emergency physician I am interested in seeing that the paramedics are providing the best care possible to the people of Castle Rock. I am used to working as a team and look forward to collaborating with the fire department personnel to assure the excellent services they provide are continued.

**FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 7**

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**Walter A. Black  
Nonpartisan**

NO STATEMENT SUBMITTED

**CEMETERY DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS**

Cowlitz County has seven operating cemetery districts. Each three-member, non-partisan commission, elected from within the jurisdictions, serves staggered six-year terms. No commissioner is salaried, but may be reimbursed for expenses.

Under state law, cemetery commissioners are empowered to make and carry out contracts and to acquire, improve and operate cemeteries, as well as establish fees and regulations for cemetery use.

**CEMETERY DISTRICT NO. 1**

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**Joanne Purvis  
Nonpartisan**

My name is Joanne Purvis and I have been a resident of Castle Rock for 19 years. I have filed for the position as a member of the Castle Rock area Cemetery District 1 Board so that I can become involved with the preservation of our local cemeteries. I believe we have very beautiful and well maintained cemeteries. I am interested in being involved with the operation and maintenance of some of our country's most sacred grounds, as well as helping to find solutions to any problems which may arise.

**CEMETERY DISTRICT NO. 1**

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**John F. King  
Nonpartisan**

NO STATEMENT SUBMITTED

**CEMETERY DISTRICT NO. 2**

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**Shirley M. Wertman  
Nonpartisan**

NO STATEMENT SUBMITTED

**CEMETERY DISTRICT NO. 2 CONTD.**

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**Walter Church Jr.  
Nonpartisan**

NO STATEMENT SUBMITTED

**CEMETERY DISTRICT NO. 3**

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**Gary L. Kessler  
Nonpartisan**

I have appreciated the opportunity to serve the community as a commissioner of Silver Lake Cemetery, Cowlitz County Cemetery District #3. This pioneer cemetery is in a beautiful location overlooking Silver Lake. I believe that it is important to be sensitive to the circumstances of those who need services and to maintain the cemetery so that it remains a gem of the community. Along with the other Commissioners, I will work to keep the cemetery organized and well maintained with a very low operating budget.

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**CEMETERY DISTRICT NO. 7**



**Robert A. Sudar  
Nonpartisan**

NO STATEMENT SUBMITTED

**BEACON HILL SEWER DISTRICT**

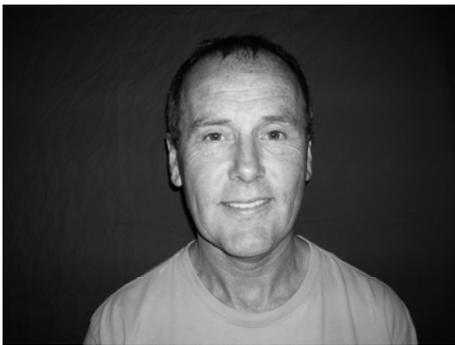
Beacon Hill Sewer District is an authority established under RCW Title 57 for acquisition, construction, operation, environmental compliance, and regulation of the sanitary sewer facilities.

Three Sewer District Commissioners are elected to staggered six-year terms. The non-partisan commissioners receive no fixed monetary compensation, except per diem for each meeting.

Sewer District Commissioners serve as the legislative authority for their district, setting policies and objectives for the district, approving the budget along with hiring and regulating a staff of professionals who implement the policies and objectives.

Beacon Hill Sewer District is not tax supported, but is funded by the rate payers through sewer service charges.

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**Ted Branch  
Nonpartisan**

NO STATEMENT SUBMITTED

**WOODLAND SWIMMING POOL & RECREATION DISTRICT**

<b>C O M M I S S I O N E R  P O S  1</b>	  <b>Todd Dinehart Nonpartisan</b>	          <b>NO STATEMENT SUBMITTED</b>
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<b>C O M M I S S I O N E R  P O S  3</b>	  <b>Kimberly Zumstein Nonpartisan</b>	          <b>NO STATEMENT SUBMITTED</b>
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**LEXINGTON FLOOD CONTROL ZONE DISTRICT**

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**Brian Wesemann  
Nonpartisan**

Lexington Residents:  
Thanks for the opportunity to serve you the past four years. Serving on the Lexington Flood Control board of supervisors has been challenging and rewarding.

During the past four years we have been busy upgrading our facilities so that they function better, building new facilities to handle increased run off, and all the while lowering our flood control assessments.

I would like to ask you for your support during this election. We have completed many of the things we set out to do, but there is more work to be done.

Thanks  
Brian Wesemann

# KIDS' ACTIVITY BOOK

IT'S ALL ABOUT LEARNING

## *Download the Kids' Activity Book*

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The Office of the Secretary of State is pleased to offer this fun and educational activity book for children. Through word games, puzzles, and other activities, your child will have an exciting opportunity to learn about the great state of Washington and the duties of the Secretary of State.



### **Fun activities include:**

- Coloring pages
- Lewis and Clark Trail maze
- Democracy word search
- Dome dot-to-dot
- Secretary of State crossword
- Chart your family tree
- Washington trivia

... and much, much more!

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### **Go online to “Vote for Kids!”**

To download the Kids' Activity Book, go to [www.vote.wa.gov](http://www.vote.wa.gov) and click on “Vote for Kids!” Additionally, you'll find other educational games and activities as well as grade-specific civics curricula.

# Student/Parent Mock Election 2007

## A Unique Opportunity

Secretary of State Sam Reed and Superintendent of Public Instruction Terry Bergeson will give Washington students a chance to speak their minds in the 2007 Washington State Student/Parent Mock Election.

This year, students can cast votes for an initiative, a referendum, and four constitutional amendments that will appear on the General Election ballot. Students in grades K-5 are presented with a simplified, age-appropriate ballot.

**The mock election helps students learn about democracy and the power of voting by offering opportunities to engage in debate with their peers about political issues, campaign for candidates they support in the current election, and see the results come in on the Secretary of State's website.**



### Register Kids to Vote!

Teachers can find free civics curriculum ideas by visiting [www.vote.wa.gov](http://www.vote.wa.gov) and clicking on "Vote for Kids." Registering in advance for the mock election will bring useful suggestions for classroom activities and other information about the mock election right to your email inbox. Register early by visiting: [www.vote.wa.gov](http://www.vote.wa.gov) and clicking on "2007 Mock Election Preregistration."



# Online Voter Registration



**Coming January 1, 2008**

Want a more convenient way to register to vote? Online voter registration will be in place next year, just in time for you to vote in Washington's Presidential Primary on February 19. Whether you are a new Washington State voter or need to update your existing registration information, this exciting internet-based tool will allow you to:

- Register to vote;
- Report your new residential address;
- Change your mailing address; or
- Update your name.

Online voter registration is fast and secure. All you need is a valid Washington State ID.

Go to **[www.vote.wa.gov](http://www.vote.wa.gov)** and click on the online voter registration icon to learn more.

# Washington State Quarter

## United States Mint's 50 State Quarters® Program

The second commemorative quarter-dollar coin released in 2007 honors Washington, and is the 42nd coin in the United States Mint's 50 State Quarters® Program. Washington, nicknamed the "Evergreen State," was admitted into the Union on November 11, 1889, becoming our Nation's 42nd state. The reverse of Washington's quarter features a king salmon breaching the water in front of majestic Mount Rainier. The coin bears the inscriptions "The Evergreen State," "Washington" and "1889."

Mount Rainier is an active volcano encased in more than 35 square miles of snow and glacial ice. It is the symbolic bridge between the eastern and western parts of the State. The salmon is another important symbol of Washington. It is a traditional image of Pacific Northwest culture, and this fish has provided nourishment for the native peoples of the Pacific Northwest. Newsman and real estate pioneer C.T. Conover nicknamed Washington the "Evergreen State" because of its many lush evergreen forests.



In April 2005, Governor Chris Gregoire established the Washington State Quarter Advisory Commission to help guide the quarter selection process. The Commission requested that residents submit design narratives representing various Washington themes. The Commission received more than 1,500 suggestions and chose five narratives to pass on to the

United States Mint. United States Mint sculptor-engravers and artists in the United States Mint's Artistic Infusion Program created the corresponding design images. The residents of Washington participated in a statewide vote in April 2006, in which more than 130,000 votes were cast. On May 4, 2006, Governor Gregoire announced Washington's recommendation at Centennial Elementary School in Olympia, Washington. Governor Gregoire's recommendation, a king salmon breaching the water in front of Mount Rainier, received the majority of votes cast in the statewide poll.

The Department of the Treasury approved the design on June 22, 2006.

This copy was taken from: [http://www.usmint.gov/mint\\_programs/50sq\\_program/states/index.cfm?state=WA](http://www.usmint.gov/mint_programs/50sq_program/states/index.cfm?state=WA)

**Teachers, to celebrate the Washington State Quarter in the classroom  
go to:**

<http://www.usmint.gov/kids/teachers/stateQuarterDay/wa.cfm>

## County Elections Department Information

These numbers require special telephone equipment to operate.

COUNTY ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT	MAILING ADDRESS	CITY	ZIP	TELEPHONE NUMBER	TDD/TTY SERVICE ONLY for the speech or hearing impaired.
Adams	210 W Broadway, Ste 200	Ritzville	99169	(509) 659-3249	(509) 659-1122
Asotin	PO Box 129	Asotin	99402	(509) 243-2084	(800) 855-1155
Benton	PO Box 470	Prosser	99350	(509) 736-3085	(800) 833-6388
Chelan	PO Box 4760	Wenatchee	98807	(509) 667-6808	(800) 833-6388
Clallam	223 E Fourth St, Ste 1	Port Angeles	98362	(360) 417-2221	(800) 833-6388
Clark	PO Box 8815	Vancouver	98666-8815	(360) 397-2345	(800) 223-3131
Columbia	341 E Main St	Dayton	99328-1361	(509) 382-4541	(800) 833-6388
Cowlitz	207 N Fourth Ave, Rm 107	Kelso	98626	(360) 577-3005	(360) 577-3061
Douglas	PO Box 456/213 S Rainier St	Waterville	98858	(509) 745-8527	(509) 745-8527, Ext 297
Ferry	350 E Delaware Ave #2	Republic	99166	(509) 775-5200	(800) 833-6388
Franklin	PO Box 1451	Pasco	99301	(509) 545-3538	(800) 833-6388
Garfield	PO Box 278	Pomeroy	99347	(509) 843-1411	(800) 833-6388
Grant	PO Box 37	Ephrata	98823	(509) 754-2011 Ext 343	(800) 833-6388
Grays Harbor	100 W Broadway, Ste 2	Montesano	98563	(360) 249-4232	(360) 249-6575
Island	PO Box 5000	Coupeville	98239	(360) 679-7366	(360) 679-7305
Jefferson	PO Box 563	Port Townsend	98368	(360) 385-9119	(800) 833-6388
King	500 Fourth Ave, Rm 553	Seattle	98104	(206) 296-8683	(206) 296-0109
Kitsap	614 Division St	Port Orchard	98366	(360) 337-7128	(800) 833-6388
Kittitas	205 W Fifth Ave, Ste 105	Ellensburg	98926	(509) 962-7503	(800) 833-6388
Klickitat	205 S Columbus Stop 2	Goldendale	98620	(509) 773-4001	(800) 833-6388
Lewis	PO Box 29	Chehalis	98532-0029	(360) 740-1278	(360) 740-1480
Lincoln	PO Box 28	Davenport	99122	(509) 725-4971	(800) 833-6388
Mason	PO Box 400	Shelton	98584	(360) 427-9670 Ext 469	(800) 833-6388
Okanogan	PO Box 1010	Okanogan	98840	(509) 422-7240	(800) 833-6388
Pacific	PO Box 97	South Bend	98586-0097	(360) 875-9317	(360) 875-9400
Pend Oreille	PO Box 5015	Newport	99156	(509) 447-3185 Option 3	(509) 447-3186
Pierce	2401 S 35 <sup>th</sup> St, Rm 200	Tacoma	98409	(253) 798-8683 (VOTE) (800) 446-4979	(800) 833-6388
San Juan	PO Box 638	Friday Harbor	98250	(360) 378-3357	(360) 378-4151
Skagit	700 S Second St/PO Box 1306	Mount Vernon	98273	(360) 336-9305	(360) 336-9332
Skamania	PO Box 790	Stevenson	98648	(509) 427-3730	(800) 833-6388
Snohomish	3000 Rockefeller Ave MS 505	Everett	98201	(425) 388-3444	(425) 388-3700
Spokane	1033 W Gardner	Spokane	99260	(509) 477-2320	(509) 477-2333
Stevens	215 S Oak St, Rm 106	Colville	99114	(509) 684-7514 (866) 307-9060	(800) 833-6384
Thurston	2000 Lakeridge Dr SW	Olympia	98502	(360) 786-5408	(360) 754-2933
Wahkiakum	PO Box 543	Cathlamet	98612	(360) 795-3219	(800) 833-6388
Walla Walla	PO Box 1856/315 W Main St	Walla Walla	99362	(509) 524-2530	(800) 833-6388
Whatcom	311 Grand Ave, Ste 103	Bellingham	98225	(360) 676-6742	(360) 738-4555
Whitman	PO Box 350	Colfax	99111	(509) 397-6353	(800) 833-6388
Yakima	128 N Second St, Rm 117	Yakima	98901	(509) 574-1340	(800) 833-6388

➤ Attention speech or hearing impaired Telecommunications Device for the Deaf users: If you are using an “800 number” from the list above for TDD/TTY service, you must be prepared to give the relay service operator the telephone number for your county elections department.

## Absentee Ballot Application

If you have requested an absentee ballot or have a permanent request for an absentee ballot on file, please do not submit another application.

*To be filled out by applicant. Please print in ink.*

Registered Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (Day) \_\_\_\_\_ (Evening) \_\_\_\_\_

**For identification purposes only (optional):** Voter registration number, if known: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Have you recently registered to vote? Yes  No

***I hereby declare that I am a registered voter.***

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature  \_\_\_\_\_

To be valid, your signature must be included.

***Send my ballot to the following address (if different from above):***

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_



Mail this  
absentee ballot  
request form to your  
county elections department.  
See previous page for  
your county's mailing  
address.

**This application is for:**

**General Election only**

November 6, 2007

**Permanent Request**

All future elections

***For office use only***

Precinct Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Levy Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Ballot Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Ballot Mailed: \_\_\_\_\_

## Absentee Ballot Application

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Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (Day) \_\_\_\_\_ (Evening) \_\_\_\_\_

**For identification purposes only (optional):** Voter registration number, if known: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Have you recently registered to vote? Yes  No

***I hereby declare that I am a registered voter.***

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature  \_\_\_\_\_

To be valid, your signature must be included.

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Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_



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