

FORMATTING NOTE:

In initiatives, legislative bills and other proposed measures, language that is to be deleted from current statutes is represented by a "strikethrough" character and language that is to be added is underlined. Because these special characters cannot be formatted in all Internet browsers, a different set of symbols is used for presenting these proposals on-line. The symbols are as follows:

- Text that is surrounded by (({- text here -})) is text that will be DELETED FROM the existing statute if the proposed measure is approved.
- Text that is surrounded by {+ text here +} is text that will be ADDED TO the existing statute if the proposed measure is approved.
- {+ NEW SECTION+} (found at the beginning of a section or paragraph) indicates that ALL of the text in that section will become law if the proposed measure is approved.

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INITIATIVE 669

I, Ralph Munro, Secretary of State of the State of Washington and custodian of its seal, hereby certify that, according to the records on file in my office, the attached copy of Initiative Measure No. 669 to the People is a true and correct copy as it was received by this office.

AN ACT Relating to prohibiting special rights for homosexuals; adding new sections to chapter 49.60 RCW; creating new sections; and declaring an emergency.

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

NEW SECTION. Sec. 1.

THE EQUAL RIGHTS, NOT SPECIAL RIGHTS ACT. This act shall be known and cited as the Equal Rights, Not Special Rights Act.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 49.60 RCW to read as follows:

PROTECTING CITIZEN'S CONSTITUTIONAL AND CIVIL RIGHTS. Neither the state of Washington, nor its political subdivisions, shall deny any right expressly guaranteed by the Constitution of the state of Washington or the Constitution of these United States of America.

Persons who commit acts of violence against the person or property of others should be prosecuted and appropriately punished in order to protect law-abiding citizens and to ensure the guarantee of equal justice for all.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 49.60 RCW to read as follows:

ENSURING EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW. The people find that equal protection of the law, not special rights, is a fundamental principle of constitutional government and is essential to the well-being and perpetuation of a free society.

The people further find that there is a legitimate and compelling state interest in ensuring equal protection of the law for all citizens and in preventing special rights based on any homosexual, bisexual, transsexual, or transvestite status, preference, orientation, conduct, act, practice, or relationship.

The people further find that there is a legitimate and compelling state interest in ensuring that the rights of parents to control the education of their children and that the sincerely held values and beliefs of citizens regarding homosexuality, bisexuality, transsexuality, or transvestism are not denigrated or denied by the public schools and that homosexuality, bisexuality, transsexuality, or transvestism are not presented, promoted, or approved as positive, healthy, or appropriate behavior.

The people further find that "the duty of all teachers" as required in RCW 28A.405.030 "to endeavor to impress on the minds of their pupils the principles of morality, truth, justice, temperance, humanity and patriotism" and "to teach them to avoid idleness, profanity and falsehood" is an indispensable prerequisite for providing a sound education, maintaining a virtuous and ethical society, and guaranteeing the rights of all citizens.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. A new section is added to chapter 49.60 RCW to read as follows:

PROHIBITING SPECIAL RIGHTS FOR HOMOSEXUALS. Neither the state of Washington, nor its political subdivisions, including counties, cities, towns, and school districts, shall by any means or instrumentality, enact or enforce a policy whereby any homosexual, bisexual, transsexual, or transvestite status, preference, orientation, conduct, act, practice, or relationship shall be a basis for a person to maintain any special classification or privilege; minority status; quota preference; affirmative action right; legal standing; public benefit; marital, spousal, parental, familial, or domestic privilege, advantage, entitlement, benefit, position, or status; claim of discrimination; or special right or protection.

A school, through any employee, volunteer, guest, or other means or instrumentality, shall not present, promote, or approve homosexuality, bisexuality, transsexuality, or transvestism, or any such conduct, act, practice, or relationship, as a positive, healthy, or appropriate behavior or lifestyle. As used in this section, "school" means any common school of the state of Washington.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 5.

CONSTRUCTION CLAUSE. The provisions of this act are to be liberally construed to effectuate the policies and purposes of this act. In the event of conflict between this act and any other provision of law, the provisions of this act shall govern.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 6.

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

NEW SECTION. Sec. 7.

EMERGENCY CLAUSE. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, morals, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately.