

# Initiative Measure No. 550

filed December 6, 2012

## KEEP TEMPORARY TAXES TEMPORARY

### COMPLETE TEXT

AN ACT Relating to keeping temporary taxes temporary; repealing 82.04.29002; and providing a contingent effective date.

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

### INTENT

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** During the 2010 session, the legislature suspended the people's initiative requiring two-thirds legislative approval for tax increases and imposed several taxes that were promised to be temporary. This initiative keeps those temporary taxes temporary so that those increases sunset in the year the voters were promised. Here's why voters should support this effort:

(1) DON'T REWARD OLYMPIA FOR FAILING TO REFORM: Taxpayers shouldn't be forced to bail out Olympia for being fiscally irresponsible. Higher taxes will only reward them for their lack of fiscal discipline and discourage them from doing what the voters have repeatedly demanded: prioritize spending and reform government. Olympia needs to live within its means just like families are doing.

(2) NONE OF THESE TAX HIKES RECEIVED THE REQUIRED TWO-THIRDS VOTE: During the 2010 legislative session, politicians overturned the will of the people by suspending the two-thirds vote requirement for raising taxes, the threshold voters have repeatedly demanded. They then imposed over twenty tax hikes totaling \$800 million. Since none of these tax increases received a two-thirds vote, none of them should be allowed to stand.

(3) DOESN'T REPEAL ALL OF IT: Nonetheless, this initiative only repeals a very small fraction of the \$800 million tax package.

(4) THESE CUSTOMERS ARE ALREADY HEAVILY TAXED: customers of service businesses are already heavily taxed and should not be subjected to extra taxes, especially during these tough economic times.

Olympia shouldn't get away with breaking their promise to taxpayers - KEEP TEMPORARY TAXES TEMPORARY.

**PROTECTING TAXPAYERS BY KEEPING TEMPORARY TAXES TEMPORARY**

**Sec. 2.** RCW 82.04.29002 (Additional tax on certain business and service activities) and 2010 1st sp.s. c 23 s 1101 are each repealed.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Any tax or fee increase imposed on business and service activities after January 1, 2013 expires on December 31, 2013.

**CONSTRUCTION CLAUSE**

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** 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. 5.** 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. 6.** This act shall be known and cited as the Keep Temporary Taxes Temporary Act of 2013.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** Section 2 of this act takes effect if, during the 2013 legislative session, the legislature amends RCW 82.04.29002.

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