Initiative Measure No. 1096

STOP THE SODA POP TAX INCREASE

COMPLETE TEXT

AN ACT Relating to eliminating the recent soda pop tax increase; creating new sections; and repealing RCW 82.--.---, 82.--.---, 82.--.---, 82.--.---, and 82.--.---.

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

INTENT

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** This initiative would eliminate the recent tax increases on soda pop imposed by the 2010 legislature. Here's why voters should support this tax repeal 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 A 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 - $17 million - of the $800 million tax package.

(4) THE TAX SURPLUS WILL COVER IT: The state's $500 million tax surplus is more than enough to cover the repeal of this tax hike, which, again, did not receive a two-thirds vote.

(5) SODA POP IS ALREADY TAXED: Soda pop is already heavily taxed and should not be subjected to extra taxes, especially during these tough economic times.

Olympia shouldn't balance the budget on the backs of the working class - STOP THE SODA POP TAX INCREASE.

PROTECTING TAXPAYERS BY ELIMINATING THE RECENT SODA POP TAX INCREASE

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The following acts or parts of acts are each repealed:

(1) RCW 82.--.--- and 2010 1st sp.s. c ... (2ESSB 6143) s 1401;

(2) RCW 82.--.--- and 2010 1st sp.s. c ... (2ESSB 6143) s 1402;

(3) RCW 82.--.--- and 2010 1st sp.s. c ... (2ESSB 6143) s 1403;

(4) RCW 82.--.--- and 2010 1st sp.s. c ... (2ESSB 6143) s 1404; and

(5) RCW 82.--.--- and 2010 1st sp.s. c ... (2ESSB 6143) s 1405.

CONSTRUCTION CLAUSE

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** 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. 4.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

STOP THE SODA POP TAX INCREASE ACT OF 2010

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act shall be known and cited as Stop the Soda Pop Tax Increase Act of 2010.

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