

# Initiative Measure No. 1354

filed March 26, 2014

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

AN ACT Relating to replacing the legislature with a legislature randomly selected from the eligible voters of the state of Washington; and creating new sections

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

### NEW SECTION.

Sec. Elected legislators tend to represent people who pay the most campaign contributions. Elections in most districts are decided in the primary and disenfranchise voters in the wrong district. Primaries overly represent the loud and angry true believing extremists of their party. People who are able to win elections are people who believe in themselves way too much. Legislators have the insulting idea that they know better than the people they represent. Legislators have advantages in an election that are difficult to beat. Thus, legislators tend to hold on to their position for life. The legislature only represents the half of the population who has the extra time and energy to vote. The sum total of this is a system that does not represent the citizens very well. The state of Washington would be better off with legislators chosen at random from eligible voters. Therefore, this act is intended to encourage the legislature to submit an amendment to the state Constitution that would replace the legislature with a legislature randomly selected from the eligible voters of the state of Washington.

NEW SECTION. Sec. (1) The legislature is encouraged to hire a law firm for up to one hundred thousand dollars to write an amendment to the state Constitution.

(2) The amendment should follow the following general principles:

(a) Establish a legislature selected at random from the eligible voters of the state of Washington;

(b) Interfering with the selection of the legislature will have the same punishment as jury tampering under RCW 9A.72.140;

(c) Interfering with the actions of the legislature will have the same punishment as jury tampering under RCW 9A.72.140;

(d) Intimidating a member or ex member of the state legislature will have the same punishment as intimidating a juror under RCW 9A.72.130

(e) Failure to report for duty in the legislature will have the same punishment as failure to report for jury duty under RCW 2.36.170;

(f) Legislators must be provided with basic needs including lodging, food, security, and medical care;

(g) Legislators must be paid a living wage at least equal to the average wage in the state of Washington;

(h) To avoid sampling error, the legislature must have at least one hundred members;

(i) The legislature may deliberate its decisions in private and keep records of its deliberations and voting record private.

(3) Copies of this amendment and initiative are to be distributed to the governor and all members of the legislature.

(4) The amendment developed by the legislature must be prominently posted on the internet, in a readable format, for at least one year.

(5) This initiative is not meant to imply that the legislature must enact the amendment to the state Constitution as written by the law firm hired pursuant to this initiative.

(6) The purpose of hiring a law firm is to conform to the legal requirement that a state initiative must be legislative in nature.

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

NEW SECTION. Sec. 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. This act may be known and cited as the draft random voters as state legislators act.

