

Voters OK'd this policy in 2007, politicians took it away, this initiative brings it right back again.

# Tougher to Raise Taxes

*Save The 2/3's Vote For Tax Increases*

**YES  
1053**

**Ballot Title**

**Statement of the Subject:** Initiative Measure No. 1053 concerns tax and fee increases imposed by state government.

**Concise Description:** This measure would restate existing statutory requirements that legislative actions raising taxes must be approved by two-thirds legislative majorities or receive voter approval, and that new or increased fees require majority legislative approval.

Should this measure be enacted into law? Yes  No

**Ballot Measure Summary**

This measure would restate the existing statutory requirement that any action or combination of actions by the legislature that raises taxes must be approved by a two-thirds vote in both houses of the legislature or approved in a referendum to the people, and it would restate the existing statutory definition of "raises taxes." It would also restate that new or increased fees must be approved by a majority vote in both houses of the legislature.

**WARNING:**

Every person who signs this petition with any other than his or her true name, knowingly signs more than one of these petitions, signs this petition when he or she is not a legal voter, or makes any false statement on this petition may be punished by fine or imprisonment or both.

**Initiative petition for submission to the People**

*To the Honorable Sam Reed,  
Secretary of State of the State of Washington*

We, the undersigned citizens and legal voters of the State of Washington, respectfully direct that the proposed measure known as Initiative Measure No. 1053, and entitled, "Statement of the Subject: Initiative Measure No. 1053 concerns tax and fee increases imposed by state government. Concise Description: This measure would restate existing statutory requirements that legislative actions raising taxes must be approved by two-thirds legislative majorities or receive voter approval, and that new or increased fees require majority legislative approval. Should this measure be enacted into law? Yes  No " a full, true and correct copy of which is printed on the reverse side of this petition, be submitted to the legal voters of the State of Washington for their approval or rejection at the general election to be held on the 2nd day of November, 2010; and each of us for himself or herself: I have personally signed this petition; I am a legal voter of the State of Washington, in the city (or town) and county written after my name, my residence address is correctly stated, and I have knowingly signed this petition only once.

**Washington State voters please sign below. Statewide Initiative to the People.  
Your signature won't count unless you print and sign your name clearly!**

R  
E  
G  
I  
S  
T  
E  
R  
E  
D  
  
V  
O  
T  
E  
R  
S  
  
O  
N  
L  
Y

	Printed Name of Voter	Signature of Voter	Your Home Address	City	County
0.	John Q Taxpayer	<i>John Q. Taxpayer</i>	1313 Mockingbird Lane	Olympia	Thurston
1.		Please sign as registered to vote.	Your address	City	County
2.		Please sign as registered to vote.	Your address	City	County
3.		Please sign as registered to vote.	Your address	City	County
4.		Please sign as registered to vote.	Your address	City	County
5.		Please sign as registered to vote.	Your address	City	County
6.		Please sign as registered to vote.	Your address	City	County
7.		Please sign as registered to vote.	Your address	City	County
8.		Please sign as registered to vote.	Your address	City	County
9.		Please sign as registered to vote.	Your address	City	County
10.		Please sign as registered to vote.	Your address	City	County
11.		Please sign as registered to vote.	Your address	City	County
12.		Please sign as registered to vote.	Your address	City	County
13.		Please sign as registered to vote.	Your address	City	County
14.		Please sign as registered to vote.	Your address	City	County
15.		Please sign as registered to vote.	Your address	City	County
16.		Please sign as registered to vote.	Your address	City	County
17.		Please sign as registered to vote.	Your address	City	County
18.		Please sign as registered to vote.	Your address	City	County
19.		Please sign as registered to vote.	Your address	City	County
20.		Please sign as registered to vote.	Your address	City	County

**If you have already signed I-1053 please do not sign again.**

Before you mail in your petition, make sure to print and sign your name here. THANKS!

RCW 9A.46.020 applies to any conduct constituting harassment against a petition signature gatherer. This penalty does not preclude the victim from seeking any other remedy otherwise available under law.

(FIRST NAME) \_\_\_\_\_ (LAST NAME) \_\_\_\_\_  
I, \_\_\_\_\_, swear or affirm under penalty of law that I circulated this sheet of the foregoing petition, and that, to the best of my knowledge, every person who signed this sheet of the foregoing petition knowingly and without any compensation or promise of compensation willingly signed his or her true name and that the information provided therein is true and correct. I further acknowledge that under chapter 29A.84 RCW, forgery of signatures on this petition constitutes a class C felony, and that offering any consideration or gratuity to any person to induce them to sign a petition is a gross misdemeanor, such violations being punishable by fine or imprisonment or both.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

## Complete text of Save The 2/3's Vote For Tax Increases Initiative I-1053

AN ACT Relating to tax and fee increases imposed by state government; amending RCW 43.135.035 and 43.135.055; adding a new section to chapter 43.135 RCW; creating new sections; repealing RCW 43.135.035; and providing contingent effective dates.

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

### INTENT

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 1.** This initiative should deter the governor and the legislature from sidestepping, suspending or repealing any of Initiative 960's policies in the 2010 legislative session. But regardless of legislative action taken during the 2010 legislative session concerning Initiative 960's policies, the people intend, by the passage of this initiative, to require either two-thirds legislative approval or voter approval for tax increases and majority legislative approval for fee increases. These important policies ensure that taking more of the people's money will always be an absolute last resort.

### PROTECTING TAXPAYERS BY REQUIRING EITHER TWO-THIRDS LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL OR VOTER APPROVAL FOR STATE GOVERNMENT TO RAISE TAXES

(sections 2 and 3 take effect if the 2010 legislature suspends or repeals the two-thirds legislative vote requirement for tax increases)

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 2.** A new section to chapter 43.135 RCW is added and reads as follows:

(1) After July 1, 1995, any action or combination of actions by the legislature that raises taxes may be taken only if approved by at least two-thirds legislative approval in both the house of representatives and the senate. 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 personal income growth?"

(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 to another source of funding, or if moneys are transferred from the state general 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 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, while increasing the revenues from that particular source to another state or local government account. This subsection does not apply to: (a) The dedication or use of lottery revenues under RCW 67.70.240(3), in support of education or education expenditures; or (b) a transfer of moneys to, or an expenditure from, the budget stabilization account.

(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 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.

(6) For the purposes of this chapter, "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.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 3.** RCW 43.135.035 (Tax legislation--Referral to voters--Conditions and restrictions--Ballot title--Declarations of emergency--Taxes on intangible property--Expenditure limit to reflect program cost shifting or fund transfer) and 2009 c 479 s 36 are each repealed.

### PROTECTING TAXPAYERS BY REQUIRING EITHER TWO-THIRDS LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL OR VOTER APPROVAL FOR STATE GOVERNMENT TO RAISE TAXES

(section 4 takes effect if the 2010 legislature does not suspend or repeal the two-thirds legislative vote requirement for tax increases)

**Sec. 4.** RCW 43.135.035 and 2009 c 479 s 36 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) After July 1, 1995, any action or combination of actions by the legislature that raises taxes may be taken only if approved by ~~((a)) at least two-thirds ((vote of each house of the legislature)) legislative approval in both the house of representatives and the senate~~, 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 personal income growth?"

(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 to another source of funding, or if moneys are transferred from the state general 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 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, while increasing the revenues from that particular source to another state or local government account. This subsection does not apply to: (a) The dedication or use of lottery revenues under RCW 67.70.240(3), in support of education or education expenditures; or (b) a transfer of moneys to, or an expenditure from, the budget stabilization account.

(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 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.

(6) For the purposes of this chapter (~~((1, Laws of 2008))~~), "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 MAJORITY LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL FOR STATE GOVERNMENT TO INCREASE FEES

**Sec. 5.** RCW 43.135.055 and 2008 c 1 s 14 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) ~~((No))~~ A fee may only be imposed or increased in any fiscal year ~~((without prior legislative approval))~~ if approved with majority legislative approval in both the house of representatives and the senate and must be subject to the accountability procedures required by RCW 43.135.031.

(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. 6.** 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. 7.** 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. 8.** This act shall be known and cited as Save The 2/3's Vote For Tax Increases Act of 2010.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 9.** Sections 2 and 3 of this act take effect if, during the 2010 legislative session, the legislature amends or repeals RCW 43.135.035.

**NEW SECTION. Sec. 10.** Section 4 of this act takes effect if, during the 2010 legislative session, the legislature does not amend or repeal RCW 43.135.035.

-- END --

**PH: 425-493-8707 • www.VotersWantMoreChoices.com**

**Please get as many signatures as you can and mail this petition back to us as soon as possible (don't forget to print and sign your name above). Fold it, put it in an envelope, and mail it, along with your most generous donation to:**

**➡ I-1053, PO Box 18250, Spokane, WA 99228**

**The government only gives us until July 2nd, 2010 to gather 241,153 valid signatures. Time is short — ACT NOW.**

**Paid for by Save The 2/3's Vote For Tax Increases I-1053 • PO Box 18250 • Spokane, WA 99228 • PH: 425-493-8707 • FAX: 509-467-4323  
www.VotersWantMoreChoices.com • jakatak@comcast.net • Deadline: July 2nd**

To get more petitions, call us at: 425-493-8707 or email us at: jakatak@comcast.net, OR PREFERABLY, to save you time and to save our campaign time and resources, make your own copies (both front & back must be photocopied and petition size cannot be reduced — final size must remain 11"x17"). Take this petition to any printer who can print on 11"x17" paper (FedEx Kinko's, Office Depot, Staples, Sir Speedy, etc.). Copies cost about 30 cents each. **COLOR PETITIONS AREN'T NECESSARY — BLACK AND WHITE IS OK.**