

islature could, by a simple majority vote, refer any such proposal to a vote of the people at the next general election.

ARGUMENTS FOR PASSAGE

Proponents argue that one way to control the raising of taxes is to require more votes in the legislature before a measure increasing taxes could be passed; therefore, a smaller number of legislators could prevent the raising of taxes. This could limit increases in taxes, fees, assessments and assessment rates. A broad consensus of support from the entire state would be needed to pass these increases. It may be more difficult for special interest groups to get increases they favor. It may require state government to prioritize its spending and economize rather than turning to new sources of revenue. The legislature, by simple majority vote, could ask for the people to vote on any increase.

ARGUMENTS AGAINST PASSAGE

Opponents argue that a special interest group would only need a small minority of legislators to defeat any proposed revenue measure. Also a minority of legislators could band together to defeat a tax increase in return for a favorable vote on other legislation. Legislators act responsibly regarding increases in taxes since they are accountable to the public to get re-elected. If this amendment is approved, the state could impose unfunded mandates upon local governments. As a tourism based economy with a tremendous population growth, Nevada must remain flexible to change the tax base, if needed. Nevada should continue to operate by majority rule as the Nevada Constitution now provides.

FISCAL NOTE

Fiscal Impact-No. The proposal to amend the Nevada Constitution to require two-thirds vote to pass a bill or joint resolution which creates, generates or increases any public revenue in any form. The proposal would have no adverse fiscal impact to the State.

FULL TEXT OF THE MEASURE

Initiative Relating to Tax Restraint

The people of the State of Nevada do enact as follows:
That section 18 or article 4 of the constitution of the State of Nevada be amended to read as follows:

[Sec:] *Sec. 18.* 1. Every bill, except a bill placed on a consent calendar adopted as provided in [this section, shall] *subsection 4, must* be read by sections on three several days, in each House, unless in case of emergency, two thirds of the House where such bill [may be] is pending shall deem it expedient to dispense with this rule. [:but the] *The* reading of a bill by sections, on its final passage, shall in no case be dispensed with, and the vote on its final passage, shall in no case be dispensed with, and the vote on final passage of every bill or joint resolution shall be taken by yeas and nays to be entered on the journals of each House. [: and] *Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2,* a majority of all the members elected in each house [.shall be] is necessary to pass every bill or joint resolution, and all bills or joint resolutions to passed, shall be signed by the presiding officers of the respective Houses and by the Secretary of State and clerk of the Assembly.

2. *Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, an affirmative vote of not fewer than two-thirds of the members elected to each house is necessary to pass a bill or joint resolution which creates, generates, or increases any public revenue in any form, including but not limited to taxes, fees, assessments and rates, or changes in the computation bases for taxes, fees, assessments and rates.*

3. *A majority of all of the members elected to each house*

QUESTION NO. 11

An Initiative Relating to Tax Restraint

CONDENSATION (ballot question)

Shall the Nevada Constitution be amended to establish a requirement that at least a two-thirds vote of both houses of the legislature be necessary to pass a measure which generates or increases a tax, fee, assessment, rate or any other form of public revenue?

Yes

No

EXPLANATION

A two-thirds majority vote of both houses of the legislature would be required for the passage of any bill or joint resolution which would increase public revenue in any form. The leg-



may refer any measure which creates, generates, or increases any revenue in any form to the people of the State at the next general election, and shall become effective and enforced only if it has been approved by a majority of the votes cast on the measure at such election.

4. Each House may provide by rule for the creation of a consent calendar and establish the procedure for the passage of uncontested bills.

