

**DRAFT
PROPOSITION 1**

(Issue No. 37: Salary Commission for Elected Officials)

A. Proposed Ballot Title:

The Snohomish County Charter Review Commission proposed an amendment to the Snohomish County Charter to establish an independent salary review commission. This measure would establish an independent salary review commission to fix the annual compensation of Snohomish County elected officials, subject to a referendum by the people. Should this proposal be:

Approved.....

Rejected.....

B. Charter Amendments Required:

New Section:

Section 6.120 Salaries of Elected Officials

The county council shall establish by ordinance and in accordance with law an independent "salary commission," which shall fix the salaries for the county council, executive, assessor, auditor, clerk, prosecuting attorney, sheriff and treasurer. No county official, public employee, or immediate family member of the official or employee, may be a member of that salary commission. As used in this section, the phrase "immediate family member" means a parent, spouse, sibling, child, or dependent relative of the official or employee, whether or not living in the same household.

The salary commission shall file any change of salary with the county auditor not later than May 1 of each year, and such change shall become effective and incorporated into the county budget without further action of the county council or salary commission. Salary changes shall be subject to referendum petition by the people of the county in the same manner as a county ordinance upon filing of such petition with the county auditor within 30 days after filing of the salary schedule. In the event of the filing of a valid referendum petition, the salary change shall not go into effect until approved by a vote of the people at the election called pursuant to Section 5.80.

The salaries for the county council, executive, assessor, auditor, clerk, prosecuting attorney, sheriff and treasurer in effect on January 1, 2007 shall remain in effect until changed as provided herein.

Section 2.20 Powers

All powers of the county, not reserved by the people or vested in specific offices by this charter, shall be vested in the county council. The county council shall exercise its

legislative power by adoption and enactment of ordinances, resolutions and motions. It shall have the power:

1. To levy taxes, appropriate revenue and adopt budgets for the county;
2. To establish the compensation to be paid to all county officials and employees and to provide for the reimbursement of expenses, except as provided in Section 6.120;
3. Except as otherwise provided for herein, to establish by ordinance executive departments and to establish their powers and responsibilities;
4. To adopt by ordinance zoning regulations and other land use and development regulations, including improvement plans for the present and future development of the county;
5. To employ legal counsel as allowed by the laws of the state of Washington;
6. To confirm or reject without cause nominations of members of all county boards and commissions, provided, the county council shall have concurrent authority with the county executive to nominate members of the Snohomish county planning commission;
7. To approve contracts or establish by ordinance methods by which any type of contract shall be approved;
8. To set collective bargaining guidelines to be followed by the county executive and to approve any and all collective bargaining agreements negotiated by the county executive.

Deleted: except that no council member may receive a salary increase for the term of office he holds during which the ordinance is adopted

The enumeration of particular powers shall not be construed as limiting the powers of the county council.

(Amended during General Election, Nov. 5, 1996, Eff date Nov. 30, 1996).

Section 3.100 Election and Term of Office

Deleted: ,

Deleted: and Compensation of Other Elected Officials

There is hereby created by the adoption of this charter the offices of county assessor, county auditor, county clerk, prosecuting attorney, county sheriff and county treasurer. These elected officers shall be nominated and elected by the voters of the county, and their terms of office shall be four years and until their successors are elected and qualified.

Deleted: The assessor, auditor, clerk, prosecuting attorney, sheriff and treasurer shall receive compensation as determined by the county council.