

PROPOSITION 1

Salary Commission

A. Proposed Ballot Title:

The Snohomish County Charter Review Commission has proposed amendments to the Snohomish County Charter concerning establishment of an independent salary commission. This measure would establish an independent salary commission to fix the 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. Salary commission members shall serve two year terms ending December 31, 2009 and every two years thereafter. Members of the salary commission shall serve without compensation, but may receive reimbursement for mileage to and from meetings and for such other expenses directly related to their service as provided by ordinance.

The salary commission shall meet biennially and shall file the salary schedule with the county council and county auditor not later than May 1. The salary schedule shall become effective January 1 of the following calendar year and incorporated into the county budget without further action of the county council, county executive or salary commission. Salary changes fixed by the salary commission shall be subject to referendum petition in the manner as prescribed by law for county commissioner and councilmember salary commissions.

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

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

Section 3.100 Election ~~and~~, Term of Office ~~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. ~~The assessor, auditor, clerk, prosecuting attorney, sheriff and treasurer shall receive compensation as determined by the county council.~~