

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. SJ0008

School construction and renovation-constitutional amendment.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Meier, Bebout and Peterson and Representative(s) Hunt, Kirkbride, Miller and Paxton

A JOINT RESOLUTION

for

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION proposing to amend the Wyoming
2 Constitution by creating a new section authorizing the
3 legislature to require school districts to impose a special
4 tax on property within the school district for the purpose
5 of construction of public school facilities; requiring
6 voter approval of the facilities; providing for the legal
7 effect of a negative vote; providing excess taxes are
8 remitted to the state; and limiting the legislature's
9 capital obligation.

10

11 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING,
12 two-thirds of all the members of the two houses, voting
13 separately, concurring therein:

14

1 **Section 1.** The following proposal to amend Wyoming
2 Constitution, Article 15, by creating a new Section 21 is
3 proposed for submission to the electors of the State of
4 Wyoming at the next general election for approval or
5 rejection to become valid as a part of the Constitution if
6 ratified by a majority of the electors at the election:

7

8 **Article 15, Section 21. School district levy for**
9 **construction of public schools.**

10

11 Notwithstanding any other provision of this constitution,
12 the legislature may require the board of trustees of an
13 individual school district to levy a special tax as a
14 condition to receive state funds for the construction of
15 public schools located within a school district. The
16 legislature may further condition receipt of the state
17 funds on approval of the proposed project by the qualified
18 electors of the school district on a ballot proposition.
19 The proposition shall describe the proposed project's
20 educational suitability and adequacy as compared to
21 existing state standards and the board of trustees' opinion
22 of the proposed project. A vote against the proposition
23 shall conclusively determine that the proposed project is

1 not necessary to meet minimum school facility requirements
2 imposed by this constitution. In no event shall the state's
3 obligation to provide funding for the construction of
4 public school facilities exceed the amount necessary to
5 supplement the district's special tax levy for the
6 facilities to meet current facility standards and
7 educational suitability requirements adopted by the state.
8 Any taxes collected pursuant to this section in excess of
9 the school district's cost of construction shall be
10 remitted to the state.

11

12 **Section 2.** That the Secretary of State shall endorse
13 the following statement on the proposed amendment:

14

1 The adoption of this amendment would allow the legislature
2 to impose requirements on school districts as a condition
3 to receiving any state funds for the construction of public
4 school facilities located within the school district. The
5 legislature may require school district boards of trustees
6 to impose a special tax to fund a portion of the costs
7 necessary to construct public school facilities located
8 within a school district and may require voter approval. A
9 vote against the proposition shall conclusively determine
10 that the proposed project is not necessary to meet minimum
11 school facility requirements imposed by the constitution.
12 The adoption of this amendment would also limit the state's
13 obligation for the construction of public school facilities
14 to the amount necessary to supplement the school district's
15 special tax levy. The state's obligation would be to
16 supplement the local tax by an amount necessary for the
17 facility to meet current facility standards and educational
18 suitability requirements adopted by the state. Taxes
19 collected in excess of the cost of construction to the
20 school district would be remitted to the state.

21

22

(END)