

# Initiative Measure No. 1057

# FILED

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SECRETARY OF STATE  
STATE OF WASHINGTON

## The People's Initiative A Washington State Initiative

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**Section 1.** The price of the Washington State government shall be defined as the annual income plus the total debt of the government expressed as a fraction of the gross domestic product for the state. The gross domestic product consists of the total value of expenditures for all final goods and services produced in the state in a twelve-month period.

Upon ratification of this article, the current price of government shall be established as a ceiling on the future price of government, taking effect the following calendar year. The citizens shall raise the ceiling by a two-thirds vote and shall lower the ceiling by a majority vote.

Normally a measure to change the ceiling shall be requested by a vote of each branch of the legislature, a two-thirds vote to raise the ceiling and a majority vote to lower the ceiling, or by a petition containing number of signatures equal to at least eight percent of the total number of votes cast for the office of governor at the last regular state gubernatorial election. The state election officer shall certify a petition within four weeks after receiving it. The signatures on a petition may be dated anytime after the last regular legislature election. A voter may sign multiple such petitions for measures that appear on the same ballot.

After a request by the legislature or after petition certification, the respective measure shall be scheduled for the next regular legislature election if the election occurs at least four months in the future.

On a given ballot, a voter shall indicate which measures, if any, they are in favor of, but they may not vote to both raise and lower the ceiling. If multiple measures are approved to raise the ceiling, the approved measure having the highest ceiling shall prevail. If multiple measures are approved to lower the ceiling, the approved measure having the lowest ceiling shall prevail. An approved ceiling shall take effect the following calendar year.

To address an emergency, a measure to change the ceiling may be requested by a three-fourths vote of each branch of the legislature and placed on a special ballot that occurs at least two months in the future. A ceiling approved in this way shall take effect immediately.

The legislature shall have power to implement this article by appropriate legislation but shall not establish unnecessarily restrictive petition deadlines, shall not prevent the citizens from printing petitions single-sided on a paper size that is accepted by most citizen-owned printers, and shall prohibit the public disclosure of the names and other information of the petition signers. The petition stipulations of this paragraph shall apply to citizen petitions used for any purpose in the state government.

**Section 2.** The citizens of Washington State charge the Washington State legislature to approve the text of section 1 as a Washington State constitutional amendment.