

INITIATIVE 289

I, Sam Reed, Secretary of State of the State of Washington and custodian of its seal, hereby certify that, according to the records on file in my office, the attached copy of Initiative Measure No. 289 to the Legislature is a true and correct copy as it was received by this office.

AN ACT Relating to the changing of state boundary lines; creating new sections; and making an appropriation.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** We the people find that since statehood, the lifestyles, culture, and economies of eastern and western Washington have been and continue to be very distinct and different. Similar major differences also hold true between eastern and western Oregon, and between western Washington and western Oregon on one hand, and the state of Idaho on the other. The similarities between eastern Washington, eastern Oregon, and Idaho are numerous and dramatic, as are the similarities between western Washington and western Oregon. Urbanization and rapid growth in the western portions of Washington and Oregon have progressively heightened this divergence of cultural and economic values, to the point where these major differences now appear to be irreconcilable. In light of these major divergences and similarities, we the people declare that a mutually agreeable realignment of current state boundary lines is in order, between Washington on one hand, and either Oregon or Idaho, or both on the other. The people further declare that it is most logical for this boundary realignment to generally follow the crest of the Cascade mountains from the border with British Columbia, Canada, southward at

least to the Columbia river, and preferably all the way to the Oregon/California border.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The Spokane county boundary review board is directed to oversee and conduct an investigation into the overall feasibility and mechanics of the boundary line changes envisioned by section 1 of this act, to define a process that would accomplish these changes, and to provide an estimate of the total cost that would be incurred by people residing within the current boundaries of the state of Washington to implement these changes. In so doing, the Spokane county boundary review board is authorized and encouraged to approach and work with appropriate officials, committees, groups, businesses, and private citizens, from Washington, Oregon, and Idaho, as in their judgment may be required to best carry out the direction and objectives of this act. The Spokane county boundary review board is directed to provide an initial report of their findings and work product to the legislature by January 14, 2005, and at the same time to make that report available to the public. The Spokane county boundary review board is further directed to provide a final report of their findings and work product to the legislature by June 30, 2005, and at the same time to make that report available to the public. Senate committee services and the house of representatives office of program research are directed to work with and assist the Spokane county boundary review board staff to carry out the intent, policies, and purposes of this act. If either the state of Oregon or the state of Idaho, or both are willing to consider participating in a boundary realignment that would substantially meet the objectives of section 1 of this act, then all branches of state government and all state agencies shall work diligently and expeditiously to accomplish these boundary line changes, and the state of Washington must petition the Congress of the United States to agree, in accordance with Article IV, section 3, of the United States Constitution.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The sum of one hundred thousand dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005, from the general fund to the department of community, trade, and economic development, for the purposes of implementing this act, and to support the actions of the Spokane county boundary review board and staff to implement this act.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The provisions of this act are to be liberally construed to effectuate the intent, policies, and purposes of this act.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** All branches and agencies of state government shall give the intent and objective of this act their full support. The people expect the legislature to adopt additional legislation as required to effectuate the intent, policies, and purposes of this act. The ultimate aim of this act is to obtain the approval of the Congress of the United States, the Washington state legislature, and the legislatures of either Oregon or Idaho, or both to make the boundary line changes envisioned in section 1 of this act an accomplished fact.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** This act may be known and cited as the Washington state boundary realignment act.