

Thursday, January 8th, 2014

To: Our thousands of supporters throughout the state (cc'd to the media, house & senate members, and Governor)

From: Tim Eyman, Jack Fagan, & Mike Fagan, Fighting for Taxpayers for 16 years,
425-493-9127, tim_eyman@comcast.net, www.VotersWantMoreChoices.com

RE: 2/3 rule for higher taxes? Temporary protection best option until the Legislature lets the people vote on a constitutional amendment

Sen. Doug Ericksen and Sen. Michael Baumgartner are to be applauded: they are pushing their colleagues in the state senate to institute a senate rule requiring a 2/3 vote in the senate for higher taxes (fee increases will continue to require a simple majority vote). Here are details on it: <http://michaelbaumgartner.srcc.wastateleg.org/baumgartner-ericksen-propose-new-two-thirds-taxes-rule-cite-taxpayer-protection/>

They are giving the 26 members of the Senate Majority Coalition Caucus the opportunity to:

- * respect the decision by the 2/3 of voters who support the 2/3
- * protect the taxpayers for 2 years
- * hold Inslee to his no-new-taxes promise, making it tougher for him to push his aggressive tax-hiking agenda
- * affirm Republican legislators' longstanding support for the 2/3 (like in 2010 when the Democrats pushed for a legislative vote to take away the 2/3, every Republican voted to maintain it)
- * affirm the Washington State Republican Party's unanimous and repeated support

for the 2/3

* abide by the unanimous supreme court ruling in 2009 (*Brown v Owen*) where all 9 justices refused to interfere with the senate's rules and procedures regarding the 2/3

They are asking their fellow members of the Senate Majority Coalition Caucus to institute a policy protection the people have repeatedly proven they overwhelmingly support.

Almost 2/3 of voters support the 2/3.

5 times the voters have approved the 2/3 by initiative. The last time, in 2012, the 2/3 received more votes than any initiative in state history

(http://results.vote.wa.gov/results/20121106/Initiative-Measure-No-1185-Concerns-tax-and-fee-increases-imposed-by-state-government_ByCounty.html). It got more votes than Inslee got. It got more votes than Obama got. It passed in every county. It was overwhelmingly approved in all 44 legislative districts outside Seattle. **It was endorsed by most of the daily newspapers (Seattle Times, Spokesman Review, Vancouver Columbian, Kitsap Sun, Walla Walla Union-Bulletin, Longview Daily News, Yakima Herald-Republic, Tri-City Herald, Centralia Chronicle, Wenatchee World, Columbia Basin Herald, Bellevue/Issaquah/Sammamish Reporter, Kitsap Peninsula Business Journal, Yakima Valley Business Times, and more).**

Consensus (con·sen·sus) -- general agreement; judgment arrived at by most of those concerned; solidarity.

Clearly, there is an overwhelming consensus for the 2/3.

The voters have heard all the arguments and they've made their choice: they

want it to be tougher to raise taxes.

If the 26 members of the Senate Majority Coalition Caucus institute a 2/3 rule for higher taxes next week, those 26 senators will have effectively represented their constituents -- 1.9 million voters will thank them.

Those 26 senators represent legislative districts packed with voters who overwhelmingly support the 2/3. The average level of voter support for the 2/3 in their 26 districts is 70.12%.

Here's the 26 senators and the support for the 2/3 in their districts:

7th district	Brian Dansel	75%
20th district	John Braun	75%
2nd district	Randi Becker	74%
4th district	Mike Padden	74%
31st district	Pam Roach	73%
13th district	Judy Warnick	73%
8th district	Sharon Brown	73%
12th district	Linda Evans Parlette	73%
39th district	Kirk Pearson	72%
17th district	Don Benton	72%
18th district	Ann Rivers	72%
16th district	Mike Hewitt	72%
25th district	Bruce Dammeier	71%
9th district	Mark Schoesler	70%
14th district	Curtis King	70%
47th district	Joe Fain	70%
26th district	Jan Angel	70%
35th district	Tim Sheldon	69%
30th district	Mark Miloscia	69%
15th district	Jim Honeyford	68%
10th district	Barbara Bailey	68%
6th district	Michael Baumgartner	68%

28th district	Steve O'Ban	67%
45th district	Andy Hill	63%
42nd district	Doug Erickson	61%
41st district	Steve Litzow	61%

A 2/3 rule will only protect taxpayers for the next two years. It is temporary. But it is the best option until the Legislature lets the people vote on a constitutional amendment (which provides permanent protection).

Send an email to the 26 senators (cut and paste the email addresses below into the "To" line of your email) and simply write: *"Respect the 2/3 of voters who support the 2/3 and pass the 2/3 rule"*:

brian.dansel@leg.wa.gov; john.braun@leg.wa.gov; randi.becker@leg.wa.gov; mike.padden@leg.wa.gov;
 pam.roach@leg.wa.gov; judy.warnick@leg.wa.gov; sharon.brown@leg.wa.gov; linda.parlette@leg.wa.gov;
 kirk.pearson@leg.wa.gov; don.benton@leg.wa.gov; ann.rivers@leg.wa.gov; mike.hewitt@leg.wa.gov;
 bruce.dammeier@leg.wa.gov; mark.schoesler@leg.wa.gov; curtis.king@leg.wa.gov; joe.fain@leg.wa.gov;
 jan.angel@leg.wa.gov; timothy.sheldon@leg.wa.gov; mark.miloscia@leg.wa.gov;
 jim.honeyford@leg.wa.gov; Barbara.bailey@leg.wa.gov; Michael.baumgartner@leg.wa.gov;
 steve.oban@leg.wa.gov; andy.hill@leg.wa.gov; doug.ericksen@leg.wa.gov; steve.litzow@leg.wa.gov;
 tim_eyman@comcast.net

We will bird-dog this effort and let you know how it turns out.



If you support our efforts to stop tax increases in 2015 and appreciate our efforts to protect taxpayers, please send us a donation for \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500, \$1000, \$2500, \$5000 or more (there are no limits on how much can be given). You can go to our website - www.VotersWantMoreChoices.com and make a secure on-line contribution by PayPal or VISA or M/C. OR, you can print [this form](#), fill it out, and return it with a check or credit card information.

We've done so many amazing things over the past 16 years, but that's only been possible thanks to successful benefactors like you. We ask you to please help us help taxpayers.

Please donate TODAY.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tim Eyman, Jack Fagan, & Mike Fagan, Fighting for Taxpayers for 16 years,
425-493-9127, tim_eyman@comcast.net, www.VotersWantMoreChoices.com

P.S. There are thousands of politicians, bureaucrats, lobbyists, and special interest groups working each and every day to raise your taxes. Shouldn't there be at least one person, one team, one organization that fights to lower your taxes? Please help us so we can continue our successful efforts on behalf of taxpayers.

"Nothing ventured, nothing gained." Benjamin Franklin