BILL REQUEST – CODE REVISER'S OFFICE

BILL REQ. #: Z-0502.1/13

ATTY/TYPIST: AA:lel

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Amending the state Constitution to provide continuity of state and local government during emergencies and disasters.
BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
STATE OF WASHINGTON, IN LEGISLATIVE SESSION ASSEMBLED:

THAT, At the next general election to be held in this state the
secretary of state shall submit to the qualified voters of the state
for their approval and ratification, or rejection, an amendment to
Article II, section 42 of the Constitution of the state of Washington
to read as follows:

Article II, section 42. The legislature, in order to insure
continuity of state and local governmental operations in periods of
emergency (resulting from enemy), disaster, or attack, shall have the
power and the duty, immediately upon and after adoption of this
amendment, to enact legislation providing for prompt and temporary
succession to the powers and duties of public offices of whatever
nature and whether filled by election or appointment, the incumbents
and legal successors of which may become unavailable for carrying on
the powers and duties of such offices; the legislature shall likewise
enact such other measures as may be necessary and proper for insuring
the continuity of governmental operations during such emergencies,
disasters, or attacks. Legislation enacted under the powers conferred
by this amendment shall in all respects conform to the remainder of the
Constitution: Provided, That if, in the judgment of the legislature at
the time of the emergency, disaster, or attack, conformance to the
provisions of the Constitution would be impracticable or would admit of
undue delay, such legislation may depart during the period of emergency
((caused by enemy)), disaster, or attack only, from the following
sections of the Constitution:

   Article 14, Sections 1 and 2, Seat of Government;
   Article 2, Sections 8, 15 (Amendments 13 and 32), and 22,
   Membership, Quorum of Legislature and Passage of Bills;
   Article 3, Section 10 (Amendment 6), Succession to Governorship:  
Provided, That the legislature shall not depart from Section 10, 
Article III, as amended by Amendment 6, of the state Constitution relating to the Governor's office so long as any successor therein named is available and capable of assuming the powers and duties of such office as therein prescribed;
   Article 3, Section 13, Vacancies in State Offices;
   Article 11, Section 6, Vacancies in County Offices;
   Article 11, Section 2, Seat of County Government;
   Article 3, Section 24, State Records.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the secretary of state shall cause
notice of this constitutional amendment to be published at least four
times during the four weeks next preceding the election in every legal
newspaper in the state.

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