

RESOLUTION REGARDING PROPOSED CLALLAM COUNTY SALES TAX INCREASE

Offering an alternative to an increase in the county sales tax

WHEREAS, the Clallam County Republican Party County Platform states, “A robust economic environment, free from burdensome regulations and taxes, and that supports the creation of jobs that enable adequate support to all families and individuals, and reverses the flight of jobs and industries to other countries.”

WHEREAS, when government imposes lower taxes, individuals and businesses tend to flourish;

WHEREAS, the individuals hit hardest with sales tax increases are the poor when they pay for essentials like certain foods, shelter, gasoline, energy needs and clothing;

WHEREAS, every time there is a tax increase, no matter how “small” it may seem, it’s an incremental “creep” toward ever-higher taxes. Taxes always go up; they never go down;

WHEREAS, ever-higher taxes happen because of multiple increases over time. Examples from multiple other jurisdictions have shown a gradual upward creep of sales tax rates with no ultimate ceiling;

WHEREAS, from 2014 – 2016, the population of Clallam County has risen by 1.255%, while the percentage of full-time county employees has risen 8.009%;

WHEREAS, the level of county services in 2014 was adequate;

WHEREAS, by reducing, through attrition, full time county employees to 2014 levels, the county would save approximately \$2 million each year;

WHEREAS, the proposed sales tax increase is supposed to raise \$1.1 million annually;

WHEREAS, the Clallam County Republican Party (CCRP), offers ideas for individual growth and free-market prosperity in lieu of a “tax and spend” philosophy, reflected by a sales tax increase, which will lead to ever more taxes;

THEREFORE, The Clallam County Republican Party proposes a gradual reduction, through attrition, of full time employees to 2014 levels which will eliminate the need for an increased sales tax.

FURTHER, THEREFORE, the CCRP further proposes that future levels of county employment be tied to the percentage of population increase in Clallam County.

RESOLUTION passed on October 9, 2017 by the Clallam County Republican Party Central Committee.

(Resolution prepared and submitted by Sue Forde, State Committeewoman, Clallam County Republican Party. This Resolution is based upon the presentation by Kaj Ahlburg.)