



## Washington State Senate

February 8, 1967

Mr. Arthur DaFletcher  
636 H. Beed Ave.  
Pasco, Washington

Dear Mr. DaFletcher:

I have received the petition that you signed requesting me, along with other Legislators, to propose amendments to the constitution which would allow special school levies to run for more than one year, and to be adopted by a simple majority vote of qualified voters.

I supported SJR 1, SJR 2, and SJR 3 in committee, but it was possible to bring only SJR 3 (eliminating the 40% requirement) to the floor of the Senate. There we successfully amended it to include the provisions of SJR 2 (which would extend special levies for two years.)

Unfortunately, the resolution was then amended to include the reduction of property valuation from 50% to 25% and, in spite of repeated efforts by a majority of the Democrats, we were unable to remove this amendment which was supported by a few of the Democrats and all of the Senate Republicans.

Since it is absolutely essential that reduction of property valuation be included as part of an over-all tax reform, including a constitutional amendment authorizing an income tax, it was necessary to return the resolution to the Rules Committee. I don't expect to see it on the floor of the Senate again in the near future. It may be that it was too early to bring this measure out, and it may be that the whole matter must wait until a revenue package and tax reform measure have been either agreed to or rejected.

I will continue to work for special levy relief, and I will work to eliminate the NEED for special levies, except in extreme cases, in the future.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. Please be assured of my continuing and enthusiastic effort to implement your request.

Although we are incredibly busy, I would be pleased to have you visit Olympia to see the Legislature in action. I am, therefore, enclosing a floor pass for your use.

Sincerely,

Mike McCormack  
Senator, 16th District

MMcC/es