

# Draft Legislation: You Eat Your Own Dogfood Amendment

H.F. No. XXXX / S.F. No. XXXX

A resolution proposing an amendment to the Minnesota Constitution by adding a section to Article I and amending Article VI.

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:**

**Section 1. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED.** An amendment to the Minnesota Constitution is proposed to the people. If the amendment is adopted, a new section, numbered 20, will be added to Article I, and Article VI, Section 5 will be amended.

**ARTICLE I, SEC. 20. GOVERNANCE BY LIVED EXPERIENCE.** (a) No public servant, judicial officer, or contractor of the state or its political subdivisions shall have the authority to create, implement, or enforce any eligibility requirement for a public assistance program unless that individual personally meets the most restrictive form of that requirement. (b) The State shall levy an occupational tax on the compensation of all high-level executive, legislative, and judicial officials—including the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and all staff thereof—and all federal officials residing in Minnesota. This tax must recapture any income or benefits exceeding the strictures of the public programs they oversee. (c) **Intersectional Equity Protection Clause.** To prevent this section from penalizing those impacted by systemic oppression, the State must deduct the estimated or actual "Intersectional Cost of Living" from the tax calculation for any official with a marginalized identity. This includes, but is not limited to, costs associated with disability, race, pregnancy, gender, immigration status, and criminal history. This deduction shall be applied proactively by the State without placing the burden of proof on the individual. (d) This section is self-executing. Any person, regardless of age, legal status, or guardianship status, may enforce this provision through a civil action. The legislature must ensure access to the courts for such actions by providing for the automatic waiver of all fees and the appointment of legal counsel for any enforcer receiving public assistance or facing intersectional barriers to access.

**ARTICLE VI, SEC. 5. JURISDICTION, APPEALS.** ...The compensation of all judges shall be prescribed by the legislature and shall not be diminished during their term of office, **except via the application of the occupational tax and lived experience mandate required by Article I, Section 20.**

**Section 2. SUBMISSION TO VOTERS.** The proposed amendment must be submitted to the people at the 2026 general election. The question submitted to the people shall be:

"Shall the Minnesota Constitution be amended to require that all judges, state executives, governor's staff, and federal representatives personally meet the income and asset limits of the programs they oversee, while protecting intersectional equity needs, and to mandate a tax confiscating any salary in excess of those limits?

Yes ..... No ....."