

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 proposing a constitutional amendment clarifying that certain
2 economic development programs do not constitute a debt.

3 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

4 SECTION 1. Section 52-a, Article III, Texas Constitution,
5 is amended to read as follows:

6 Sec. 52-a. Notwithstanding any other provision of this
7 constitution, the legislature may provide for the creation of
8 programs and the making of loans and grants of public money, other
9 than money otherwise dedicated by this constitution to use for a
10 different purpose, for the public purposes of development and
11 diversification of the economy of the state, the elimination of
12 unemployment or underemployment in the state, the stimulation of
13 agricultural innovation, the fostering of the growth of enterprises
14 based on agriculture, or the development or expansion of
15 transportation or commerce in the state. Any bonds or other
16 obligations of a county, municipality, or other political
17 subdivision of the state that are issued for the purpose of making
18 loans or grants in connection with a program authorized by the
19 legislature under this section and that are payable from ad valorem
20 taxes must be approved by a vote of the majority of the registered
21 voters of the county, municipality, or political subdivision voting
22 on the issue. A program created or a loan or grant made as provided
23 by this section that is not secured by a pledge of ad valorem taxes
24 or financed by the issuance of any bonds or other obligations

1 payable from ad valorem taxes of the political subdivision does not
2 constitute or create a debt for the purpose of any provision of this
3 constitution. An enabling law enacted by the legislature in
4 anticipation of the adoption of this amendment is not void because
5 of its anticipatory character.

6 SECTION 2. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be
7 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 8, 2005.
8 The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the
9 proposition: "The constitutional amendment clarifying that
10 certain economic development programs do not constitute a debt."

David Bewhurst

President of the Senate

Jim Cusick

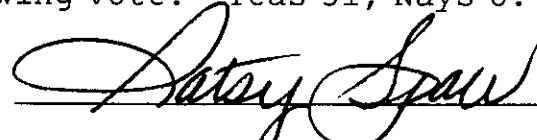
Speaker of the House

I certify that H.J.R. No. 80 was passed by the House on May 4, 2005, by the following vote: Yeas 121, Nays 12, 1 present, not voting; that the House refused to concur in Senate amendments to H.J.R. No. 80 on May 27, 2005, and requested the appointment of a conference committee to consider the differences between the two houses; and that the House adopted the conference committee report on H.J.R. No. 80 on May 29, 2005, by the following vote: Yeas 135, Nays 7, 1 present, not voting.

Robert Haney

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.J.R. No. 80 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 24, 2005, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0; at the request of the House, the Senate appointed a conference committee to consider the differences between the two houses; and that the Senate adopted the conference committee report on H.J.R. No. 80 on May 29, 2005, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.



Secretary of the Senate

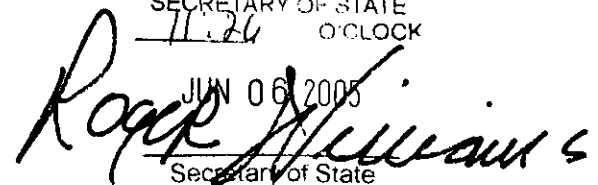
RECEIVED: _____

Date

Secretary of State

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
11:26 O'CLOCK

JUN 06 2005



Secretary of State