

By: Campos

H.J.R. No. 90

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 proposing a constitutional amendment authorizing the issuance of
2 general obligation bonds to provide funding for the construction,
3 expansion, maintenance, and operation of state mental health
4 facilities.

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

6 SECTION 1. Article III, Texas Constitution, is amended by
7 adding Section 49-q to read as follows:

8 Sec. 49-q. (a) The legislature by general law may authorize
9 the Health and Human Services Commission or that agency's successor
10 to provide for, issue, and sell general obligation bonds of the
11 State of Texas in an amount not to exceed \$10 billion and to enter
12 into related credit agreements to provide funding for the
13 construction, expansion, maintenance, and operation of state
14 mental health facilities. The bonds shall be executed in the form,
15 on the terms, and in the denominations, bear interest, and be issued
16 in installments as prescribed by the Health and Human Services
17 Commission or that agency's successor.

18 (b) A portion of the proceeds from the sale of the bonds and
19 a portion of the interest earned on the bonds may be used to pay:

20 (1) the costs of administering projects authorized by
21 this section;

22 (2) the cost or expense of the issuance of the bonds;

23 (3) refunding bonds and related credit agreements

24 authorized by this section; and

1 (4) all or part of a payment owed or to be owed under a
2 credit agreement.

3 (c) The bonds authorized under this section constitute a
4 general obligation of the state. While any of the bonds or interest
5 on the bonds is outstanding and unpaid, there is appropriated out of
6 the first money coming into the treasury each fiscal year, not
7 otherwise appropriated by this constitution, an amount sufficient
8 to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds that mature or
9 become due during the fiscal year, including an amount sufficient
10 to make payments under a related credit agreement.

11 (d) The proceeds from the issuance and sale of the bonds,
12 and the interest earned on the bonds, are appropriated when
13 received by the state, and may be used as provided by this section
14 and any law enacted under this section without further
15 appropriation.

16 (e) Bonds issued under this section, after approval by the
17 attorney general, registration by the comptroller of public
18 accounts, and delivery to the purchasers, are incontestable and are
19 general obligations of the State of Texas under this constitution.

20 SECTION 2. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be
21 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 7, 2023.
22 The ballot shall be printed to provide voting for or against the
23 proposition: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the
24 issuance of general obligation bonds to provide funding for the
25 construction, expansion, maintenance, and operation of state
26 mental health facilities."