

By: Canales

H.J.R. No. 144

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 proposing a constitutional amendment authorizing the use of money  
2 in the state highway fund for roadways for seaports, airports,  
3 spaceports, land ports of entry, and international bridges.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 7-a, Article VIII, Texas Constitution,  
6 is amended to read as follows:

7 Sec. 7-a. Subject to legislative appropriation, allocation  
8 and direction, all net revenues remaining after payment of all  
9 refunds allowed by law and expenses of collection derived from  
10 motor vehicle registration fees, and all taxes, except gross  
11 production and ad valorem taxes, on motor fuels and lubricants used  
12 to propel motor vehicles over public roadways, shall be used for the  
13 sole purpose of acquiring rights-of-way, constructing,  
14 maintaining, and policing such public roadways, and for the  
15 administration of such laws as may be prescribed by the Legislature  
16 pertaining to the supervision of traffic and safety on such roads;  
17 and for the purpose of acquiring rights-of-way, constructing, and  
18 maintaining roadways for seaports, airports, spaceports, land  
19 ports of entry, and international bridges [~~payment of the principal~~  
20 ~~and interest on county and road district bonds or warrants voted or~~  
21 ~~issued prior to January 2, 1939, and declared eligible prior to~~  
22 ~~January 2, 1945, for payment out of the County and Road District~~  
23 ~~Highway Fund under existing law]; provided, however, that  
24 one-fourth (1/4) of such net revenue from the motor fuel tax shall~~

1 be allocated to the Available School Fund; and, provided, however,  
2 that the net revenue derived by counties from motor vehicle  
3 registration fees shall never be less than the maximum amounts  
4 allowed to be retained by each County and the percentage allowed to  
5 be retained by each County under the laws in effect on January 1,  
6 1945. Nothing contained herein shall be construed as authorizing  
7 the pledging of the State's credit for any purpose.

8         SECTION 2. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be  
9 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 7, 2023.  
10 The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the  
11 proposition: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the use of  
12 money in the state highway fund for roadways for seaports,  
13 airports, spaceports, land ports of entry, and international  
14 bridges."