A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 proposing a constitutional amendment creating the State School

2 Safety Fund to provide financial support for projects that enhance

3 the safety of schools in this state.

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

5   SECTION 1. Article VII, Texas Constitution, is amended by

6 amending Section 7 to read as follows:

7   Sec. 7. (a) The State School Safety Fund is created as a

8 special fund in the state treasury outside the general revenue

9 fund. Money in the State School Safety Fund shall be administered,

10 without further appropriation, by the Texas Permanent School Fund

11 Corporation or that corporation's successor in function. In

12 accordance with general law, the State School Safety Fund may be

13 used only to support projects to enhance the safety of schools in

14 this state, including projects ensure schools meet school safety

15 standards as determined by the Texas Education Agency. Separate

16 accounts may be established in the State School Safety Fund as

17 necessary or convenient to administer the fund or the supported

18 projects. The financial assistance authorized by this section may

19 be provided directly to independent school districts and

20 open-enrollment charter schools as provided by general law.

21   (b) The legislature by general law may authorize the Texas

22 Permanent School Fund Corporation or that corporation's successor

23 in function to use the State School Safety Fund to provide financial

24 assistance, including by direct grant, for projects that enhance

1 the safety of schools in this state.

2   (c) The State School Safety Fund consists of:

3   (1) money appropriated to the fund;

4   (2) money transferred or deposited to the credit of

5 the fund by general law, including money from any source

6 transferred or deposited to the credit of the fund at the discretion

7 of the Texas Permanent School Fund Corporation or that

8 corporation's successor in function as authorized by general law;

9   (3) revenue from any source, including the proceeds of

10 any fee or tax imposed by this state, that the legislature by

11 statute dedicates for deposit to the credit of the fund;

12   (4) investment earnings and interest earned on amounts

13 credited to the fund;

14   (5) surplus funds identified in any fiscal year from

15 the Foundation School Program, and

16   (6) money transferred to the fund from another fund or

17 account to which money from the fund was transferred, as authorized

18 by general law.

19   (d) The legislature by general law shall provide for the

20 manner in which the assets of the State School Safety Fund may be

21 used, subject to the limitations provided by this section. The

22 legislature by general law may provide for costs of investment and

23 administration of the State School Safety Fund to be paid from that

24 fund.

25   (e) For the purposes of Section 22 , Article VIII, of this

26 constitution, an appropriation of money from the economic

27 stabilization fund for the purpose of depositing that money to the

1 credit of the State School Safety Fund is considered to be an
2 appropriation of state tax revenues dedicated by this constitution.
3   (f) This section is intended to establish a basic framework
4 of the State School Safety Fund, and the legislature by general law
5 may provide for the implementation and effectuate the design and
6 objects of this section and may delegate duties, responsibilities,
7 functions, and authority to the Texas Permanent School Fund
8 Corporation or that corporation's successor in function for those
9 purposes.
10   SECTION 2. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be
11 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 7, 2023.
12 The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the
13 proposition: "The constitutional amendment creating the State
14 School Safety Fund to provide financial support for projects that
15 enhance the safety in schools in this state."