

By: Dorazio

H.J.R. No. 76

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 proposing a constitutional amendment appropriating certain surplus  
2 revenue for school district bond debt.

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

4 SECTION 1. Article VII, Texas Constitution, is amended by  
5 adding Section 3-a to read as follows:

6 Sec. 3-a. (a) For the state fiscal year beginning September  
7 1, 2026, the following amounts of money are appropriated from the  
8 specified source to the Texas Education Agency or its successor in  
9 function for distribution to school districts to pay debt service  
10 on bonds supported by ad valorem taxes as provided by this section:

11 (1) an amount of money equal to one-half of the amount  
12 by which the estimated amount of total available general revenue  
13 anticipated to be received in the state fiscal biennium beginning  
14 September 1, 2025, as reported in the statement required of the  
15 comptroller by Section 49a, Article III, of this constitution,  
16 exceeds the amount of revenue that may be spent for that biennium in  
17 accordance with Section 22, Article VIII, of this constitution is  
18 appropriated from the general revenue fund; and

19 (2) an amount of money equal to one-half of the  
20 unobligated balance of the economic stabilization fund on September  
21 1, 2025, is appropriated from the economic stabilization fund.

22 (b) Money appropriated by this section shall be distributed  
23 proportionately to each school district based on the number of  
24 students enrolled in the district who are lawfully present in the

1 United States.

2 (c) Subject to Subsection (d) of this section, a school  
3 district must use money distributed under this section to pay debt  
4 service on bonds supported by ad valorem taxes, prioritizing bonds  
5 with the highest interest rates.

6 (d) A school district that receives more money under this  
7 section than the district owes on bonds issued by the district that  
8 are supported by ad valorem taxes shall use the money in the  
9 following order:

10 (1) to pay off debt attributable to bonds issued by the  
11 district that are supported by ad valorem taxes, if any; and

12 (2) to pay for capital improvements.

13 (e) A school district that accepts money distributed under  
14 this section may not issue bonds supported by ad valorem taxes  
15 during the 10-year period that begins on the date on which the  
16 district accepts the money. A school district may decline money  
17 distributed under this section.

18 (f) For purposes of Section 22, Article VIII, of this  
19 constitution, the appropriation under this section is an  
20 appropriation of state tax revenues dedicated by this constitution.

21 (g) This section expires September 1, 2039.

22 SECTION 2. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be  
23 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 4, 2025.  
24 The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the  
25 proposition: "The constitutional amendment appropriating certain  
26 surplus revenue for school district bond debt."