

BILL ANALYSIS

H.J.R. 62
By: Truitt
Elections
Committee Report (Unamended)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

During the past several legislative sessions, the law has been changed to allow certain unopposed candidates, including those in local races and in special elections to fill vacancies in the legislature, to be declared elected. This policy promotes efficiency in election administration, creates simpler ballots, and helps reduce the costs of elections. HJR 62 proposes a constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to permit a person to take office without election if the person is the only candidate to qualify in an election for that office.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that this resolution does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

ANALYSIS

HJR 62 amends the Texas Constitution by authorizing the legislature, for an office for which the constitution requires an election, to provide by general law for a person to take the office without an election if the person is the only candidate to qualify in an election to be held for that office.

FOR ELECTION

November 4, 2003.