

By: King, Pena, Capelo, Swinford

H.J.R. No. 54

Substitute the following for H.J.R. No. 54:

By: Grusendorf

C.S.H.J.R. No. 54

A JOINT RESOLUTION

proposing a constitutional amendment providing that benefits in certain public retirement systems may not be reduced or impaired.

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

SECTION 1. Section 67, Article XVI, Texas Constitution, is amended by adding Subsection (h) to read as follows:

(h) This subsection applies only to a public retirement system that is not a statewide system and that provides service and disability retirement benefits and death benefits to public officers and employees and to a statewide public retirement system that provides service and disability retirement benefits and death benefits to volunteer emergency services personnel. Benefits under a retirement system to which this subsection applies may not be reduced or impaired for service performed before the effective date of any change in the benefit structure, and benefits granted to any retiree or other annuitant before the effective date of this subsection and in effect on that effective date, may not be reduced or impaired. This obligation is the responsibility of the political subdivision or subdivisions that finance the particular retirement system.

SECTION 2. This constitutional amendment shall be submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 4, 2003. The ballot shall be printed to allow for voting for or against the proposition: "The constitutional amendment to guarantee benefits earned in local public retirement systems and certain statewide public retirement

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1 systems."