

By: Moreno of Harris

H.J.R. No. 99

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 proposing a constitutional amendment requiring eight justice of the  
2 peace precincts in Harris County, with at least two justices of the  
3 peace and at least one constable to be elected in each of those  
4 precincts.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 18(a), Article V, Texas Constitution, is  
7 amended to read as follows:

8 (a) Each county in the State with a population of 50,000 or  
9 more, according to the most recent federal census, from time to  
10 time, for the convenience of the people, shall be divided into not  
11 less than four and not more than eight precincts, except that Harris  
12 County shall be divided into eight precincts. Each county in the  
13 State with a population of 18,000 or more but less than 50,000,  
14 according to the most recent federal census, from time to time, for  
15 the convenience of the people, shall be divided into not less than  
16 two and not more than eight precincts. Each county in the State  
17 with a population of less than 18,000, according to the most recent  
18 federal census, from time to time, for the convenience of the  
19 people, shall be designated as a single precinct or, if the  
20 Commissioners Court determines that the county needs more than one  
21 precinct, shall be divided into not more than four precincts.  
22 Notwithstanding the population requirements of this subsection,  
23 Chambers County and Randall County, from time to time, for the  
24 convenience of the people, shall be divided into not less than two

1 and not more than six precincts. A division or designation under  
2 this subsection shall be made by the Commissioners Court provided  
3 for by this Constitution. Except as provided by this section, in  
4 each such precinct there shall be elected one Justice of the Peace  
5 and one Constable, each of whom shall hold his office for four years  
6 and until his successor shall be elected and qualified. In[+  
7 ~~provided that in~~] a county with a population of less than 150,000,  
8 according to the most recent federal census, in any precinct in  
9 which there may be a city of 18,000 or more inhabitants, there shall  
10 be elected two Justices of the Peace. In[, ~~and in~~] a county with a  
11 population of 150,000 or more, according to the most recent federal  
12 census, each precinct may contain more than one Justice of the Peace  
13 Court, except that in Harris County there shall be elected at least  
14 two Justices of the Peace and at least one Constable in each  
15 precinct. Notwithstanding the population requirements of this  
16 subsection, any county that is divided into four or more precincts  
17 on November 2, 1999, shall continue to be divided into not less than  
18 four precincts.

19 SECTION 2. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be  
20 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 4, 2003.  
21 The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the  
22 proposition: "The constitutional amendment to require eight  
23 justice of the peace precincts in Harris County, with at least two  
24 justices of the peace and at least one constable to be elected in  
25 each of those precincts."