

By: Van de Putte

S.J.R. No. 50

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 proposing a constitutional amendment providing that the  
2 legislature shall convene in a scheduled special session once each  
3 even-numbered year unless the scheduled special session is canceled  
4 by the governor.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 5(a), Article III, Texas Constitution,  
7 is amended to read as follows:

8 (a) The Legislature shall meet every odd-numbered year in  
9 regular session [~~two years~~] at such time as may be provided by law  
10 and every even-numbered year to the extent provided by Section 40 of  
11 this article. The Legislature also shall meet [~~and~~] at other times  
12 when convened by the Governor.

13 SECTION 2. Section 40, Article III, Texas Constitution, is  
14 amended to read as follows:

15 Sec. 40. (a) When the Legislature shall be convened in  
16 special session, there shall be no legislation upon subjects other  
17 than those designated in the proclamation of the Governor calling  
18 such session, or presented to them by the Governor; and no such  
19 session shall be of longer duration than thirty days.

20 (b) The Legislature shall convene every even-numbered year  
21 in a scheduled special session at the same time and date as provided  
22 by law for the convening of a regular session in an odd-numbered  
23 year unless the scheduled special session is canceled by the  
24 Governor by a proclamation issued at least 45 days before the

1 scheduled start of the session. A scheduled special session is  
2 considered to be a special session for all purposes, including for  
3 purposes of the limitation on legislation that may be considered  
4 during a special session prescribed by Subsection (a) of this  
5 section, except that the Legislature shall convene unless the  
6 scheduled special session is canceled by the Governor.

7 SECTION 3. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be  
8 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 4, 2003.  
9 The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the  
10 proposition: "The constitutional amendment providing that the  
11 legislature shall convene in a scheduled special session once in  
12 each even-numbered year unless the scheduled special session is  
13 canceled by the governor."