

By: Shapleigh

S.J.R. No. 55

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

proposing a constitutional amendment authorizing the issuance of general obligation bonds to provide loans to defense-related communities for economic development projects, including projects that enhance military value of military installations.

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

SECTION 1. Article III, Texas Constitution, is amended by adding Section 49-n to read as follows:

Sec. 49-n. (a) The legislature by general law may authorize one or more state agencies to issue general obligation bonds of the State of Texas in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$250 million. The proceeds from the sale of the bonds shall be deposited in the Texas military value revolving loan account in the state treasury or its successor account to be used by one or more state agencies designated by the legislature by general law without further appropriation to provide loans for economic development projects that benefit defense-related communities, as defined by the legislature by general law, including projects that enhance the military value of military installations located in the state.

(b) The expenses incurred in connection with the issuance of the bonds and the costs of administering the Texas military value revolving loan account may be paid from money in the account.

(c) A defense-related community receiving a loan from the Texas military value revolving loan account may use money from the

1 account to capitalize interest on the loan.

2 (d) An agency providing a loan from the Texas military value  
3 revolving loan account to a defense-related community may require  
4 the defense-related community to pay any pro rata cost of issuing  
5 the general obligation bonds.

6 (e) Bonds authorized under this section are a general  
7 obligation of the state. While any of the bonds or interest on the  
8 bonds is outstanding and unpaid, there is appropriated out of the  
9 first money coming into the treasury in each fiscal year, not  
10 otherwise appropriated by this constitution, the amount sufficient  
11 to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds that mature or  
12 become due during the fiscal year, less any amounts in the interest  
13 and sinking accounts at the close of the preceding fiscal year that  
14 are pledged to payment of the bonds or interest.

15 SECTION 2. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be  
16 submitted to the voters at an election to be held September 13,  
17 2003. The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against  
18 the proposition: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the  
19 issuance of general obligation bonds not to exceed \$250 million  
20 payable from the general revenues of the state to provide loans to  
21 defense-related communities for economic development projects,  
22 including projects that enhance the military value of military  
23 installations."