

By: Barrientos

S.J.R. No. 9

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 proposing a constitutional amendment to increase the minimum amount
2 of the local option residence homestead exemption from ad valorem
3 taxation by a political subdivision.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 1-b(e), Article VIII, Texas
6 Constitution, is amended to read as follows:

7 (e) The governing body of a political subdivision[~~, other~~
8 ~~than a county education district,~~] may exempt from ad valorem
9 taxation a percentage of the market value of the residence
10 homestead of a married or unmarried adult, including one living
11 alone. [~~In the manner provided by law, the voters of a county~~
12 ~~education district at an election held for that purpose may exempt~~
13 ~~from ad valorem taxation a percentage of the market value of the~~
14 ~~residence homestead of a married or unmarried adult, including one~~
15 ~~living alone.] The percentage may not exceed twenty percent.
16 However, the amount of an exemption authorized pursuant to this
17 subsection may not be less than \$15,000 [~~Five Thousand Dollars~~
18 ~~(\$5,000)] unless the legislature by general law prescribes other
19 monetary restrictions on the amount of the exemption. An eligible
20 adult is entitled to receive other applicable exemptions provided
21 by law. An exemption under this subsection that was in effect for
22 the 2006 ad valorem tax year in an amount of less than \$15,000
23 continues to apply to eligible residence homesteads taxed by the
24 political subdivision until, in accordance with general law, the~~~~

1 exemption is repealed or the amount of the exemption is changed, in
2 which event the amount of the exemption after the change may not be
3 less than \$15,000. Where ad valorem tax has previously been pledged
4 for the payment of debt, the governing body of a political
5 subdivision may continue to levy and collect the tax against the
6 value of the homesteads exempted under this subsection until the
7 debt is discharged if the cessation of the levy would impair the
8 obligation of the contract by which the debt was created. The
9 legislature by general law may prescribe procedures for the
10 administration of residence homestead exemptions.

11 SECTION 2. The following temporary provision is added to
12 the Texas Constitution:

13 TEMPORARY PROVISION. (a) This temporary provision applies
14 to the constitutional amendment proposed by the 79th Legislature,
15 3rd Called Session, 2006, to increase the minimum amount of the
16 local option residence homestead exemption from ad valorem
17 taxation.

18 (b) The amendment to Section 1-b(e), Article VIII, of this
19 constitution takes effect beginning with the tax year that begins
20 January 1, 2007.

21 (c) This temporary provision expires January 1, 2008.

22 SECTION 3. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be
23 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 7, 2006.
24 The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the
25 proposition: "The constitutional amendment to increase the minimum
26 amount of the local option residence homestead exemption from ad
27 valorem taxation by a political subdivision."