

By: Alonzo

H.J.R. No. 55

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 proposing a constitutional amendment to require a house or  
2 committee of the legislature to take a record vote on certain  
3 legislative measures and actions.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 12, Article III, Texas Constitution, is  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 Sec. 12. (a) Each House shall keep a journal of its  
8 proceedings, and publish the same.

9 (b) A vote taken by either House or by a committee of either  
10 House must be by record vote of the yeas and nays entered in the  
11 journal of the House or in the committee minutes, as appropriate, if  
12 the vote is on approval or disapproval of a bill, a measure  
13 proposing or ratifying a constitutional amendment, an amendment or  
14 substitute to such a bill or measure, the appointment or election of  
15 a legislative officer or other public official, or the confirmation  
16 of an appointment to public office; and the yeas and nays of the  
17 members of either House on any other question shall, at the desire  
18 of any three members present, be entered on the journals.

19 (c) Each House shall establish procedures to make each  
20 record vote required by Subsection (b) of this section widely  
21 available to the public through the Internet or another suitable  
22 method.

23 SECTION 2. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be  
24 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 8, 2005.

1 The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the  
2 proposition: "The constitutional amendment to require that a record  
3 vote be taken by a house or committee of the legislature on any  
4 bill, constitutional amendment, amendment to a bill or  
5 constitutional amendment, election or appointment of a public  
6 official, or confirmation of an appointment to public office, and  
7 to provide for public access on the Internet or by another method to  
8 those record votes."