

By: Dunnam

H.J.R. No. 100

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 proposing a constitutional amendment providing for open meetings of
2 each House of the Legislature, and its committees and
3 subcommittees.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 16, Article III, Texas Constitution, is
6 amended to read as follows:

7 Sec. 16. (a) The sessions of each House shall be open,
8 except the Senate when in Executive session.

9 (b) The Legislature by general law may administer and
10 enforce the requirement of Subsection (a) of this section.

11 (c) All meetings of every committee of each House at which
12 official acts are to be taken or at which public business is to be
13 transacted or discussed shall be open and noticed to the public and
14 meetings of the legislature shall be open and noticed as provided in
15 Article III, Section 4(e), except with respect to meetings exempted
16 pursuant to this section or specifically closed by this
17 Constitution. The Legislature may provide by general law, passed
18 by a two-thirds vote of each House, for the exemption of meetings
19 from the requirements of this section, provided that such law shall
20 state with specificity the public necessity justifying the
21 exemption and shall be no broader than necessary to accomplish the
22 stated purpose of the law. As used in this section, the term
23 "committee" means any committee created by or under the authority
24 of a House, its presiding officer, or other officer granted that

1 authority by the rules of that House to create a committee, and
2 includes working groups.

3 SECTION 2. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be
4 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 8, 2005.
5 The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the
6 proposition: "The constitutional amendment providing for open
7 meetings of each House of the Legislature, and its committees and
8 subcommittees."