

1-1 By: Goolsby (Senate Sponsor - Brimer) H.C.R. No. 70
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 23, 2007;
1-3 April 26, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Administration; May 8, 2007, reported favorably by the following
1-5 vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0; May 8, 2007, sent to printer.)

1-6 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-7 WHEREAS, The Texas Legislature for each of the last 12
1-8 regular sessions has adopted a concurrent resolution authorizing
1-9 the creation and appointment of joint interim legislative study
1-10 committees by the lieutenant governor and speaker of the house of
1-11 representatives; and

1-12 WHEREAS, Renewal of the prior authorizations to the presiding
1-13 officers enables the legislature to address and study issues that
1-14 remain unresolved on sine die adjournment or that emerge subsequent
1-15 to that time; and

1-16 WHEREAS, It is also desirable to adopt by resolution various
1-17 rules and policies regarding the operation of joint committees to
1-18 supplement, and reconcile differences between, the senate and house
1-19 rules of procedure; now, therefore, be it

1-20 RESOLVED, That the 80th Legislature of the State of Texas
1-21 hereby authorize the lieutenant governor and speaker of the house
1-22 of representatives to create by mutual agreement such joint
1-23 committees as they consider necessary during the term of this
1-24 legislature; and, be it further

1-25 RESOLVED, That each joint committee created pursuant to this
1-26 resolution be composed of such combination of legislators, state
1-27 officials, or citizen members as shall be determined mutually by
1-28 the presiding officers of each house; and, be it further

1-29 RESOLVED, That on the request of the presiding officers, the
1-30 governor may appoint members to a joint committee created pursuant
1-31 to this resolution; and, be it further

1-32 RESOLVED, That the presiding officers issue for each
1-33 committee so created a joint proclamation identifying the issue or
1-34 issues to be studied and listing the committee membership or
1-35 describing the committee composition and that the proclamation be
1-36 filed with the secretary of the senate and the chief clerk of the
1-37 house of representatives; and, be it further

1-38 RESOLVED, That the presiding officers designate jointly a
1-39 chair, or designate alternatively two co-chairs, from among the
1-40 committee membership; and, be it further

1-41 RESOLVED, That the chair or co-chairs, acting jointly and
1-42 within four weeks of the proclamation, prepare and present to the
1-43 presiding officers a proposal for budget and staffing; and, be it
1-44 further

1-45 RESOLVED, That the chair or co-chairs be directed to use to
1-46 the greatest extent possible the existing staff and administrative
1-47 resources of committee members, standing committees, officers of
1-48 the senate and house, and legislative service agencies; and, be it
1-49 further

1-50 RESOLVED, That the presiding officers jointly review each
1-51 budget and staffing proposal, adopt budgetary and staffing
1-52 allocations, and determine the manner in which each joint committee
1-53 is to be funded; and, be it further

1-54 RESOLVED, That the joint committee chair, or the co-chairs
1-55 acting by mutual agreement, have authority to create and appoint
1-56 subcommittees or affiliated advisory panels and to designate
1-57 respective chairs for each, contingent on the advance approval of
1-58 the presiding officers for the creation and appointment of
1-59 subcommittees or advisory panels containing membership external to
1-60 the committee; and, be it further

1-61 RESOLVED, That each joint committee, and its subcommittees
1-62 and advisory panels, convene at the call of its chair or co-chairs;
1-63 provided that no joint committee, nor its subcommittees or advisory
1-64 panels, shall convene in a public hearing or other meeting for the

2-1 transaction of business unless public notice has been posted by its
 2-2 chair or co-chairs at the locations specified by the senate and
 2-3 house rules of procedure for posting of notice of standing
 2-4 committee meetings at least five calendar days in advance of the
 2-5 hearing or meeting; and, be it further

2-6 RESOLVED, That the preceding clause be construed, for
 2-7 purposes of Section 551.046, Government Code, as a joint rule of the
 2-8 senate and house of representatives controlling the posting of
 2-9 notice for joint committees, and their subcommittees and advisory
 2-10 panels, in lieu of required posting with the secretary of state;
 2-11 and, be it further

2-12 RESOLVED, That each joint committee have authority to issue
 2-13 process as provided in Sections 301.024-301.027, Government Code,
 2-14 provided that any motion for the issuance of process must receive
 2-15 the record vote of at least two-thirds of those present and voting,
 2-16 a quorum being present; and, be it further

2-17 RESOLVED, That each joint committee be entitled to accept
 2-18 grants and donations as provided by Subsections (b) and (c),
 2-19 Section 301.032, Government Code, and that, on expiration of a
 2-20 joint committee, any unexpended funds remaining from a grant or
 2-21 donation be transferred in equal proportions to the accounts of the
 2-22 senate and house of representatives unless otherwise provided by
 2-23 the grantor or donor; and, be it further

2-24 RESOLVED, That each joint committee, except as modified by or
 2-25 pursuant to this resolution, have all other powers and duties
 2-26 provided to special committees by Subchapter B, Chapter 301,
 2-27 Government Code, and the senate and house rules of procedure; and,
 2-28 be it further

2-29 RESOLVED, That the operating accounts for each joint
 2-30 committee created pursuant to this resolution and any grants and
 2-31 donations that such committee may receive be administered by the
 2-32 Texas Legislative Council; and, be it further

2-33 RESOLVED, That the Texas Legislative Council prepare, under
 2-34 the guidance of the presiding officers, a manual of procedures for
 2-35 joint committees and other entities created by the legislature for
 2-36 which funds are to be administered by the Texas Legislative Council
 2-37 establishing requirements as to printing needs, accounting
 2-38 procedures, ultimate disposition of records, and other
 2-39 administrative and financial matters; and, be it further

2-40 RESOLVED, That citizen members appointed by the lieutenant
 2-41 governor or speaker of the house of representatives to joint
 2-42 committees created pursuant to this resolution be reimbursed from
 2-43 funds appropriated to the Texas Legislative Council for expenses of
 2-44 transportation, meals, lodging, and incidentals for travel on
 2-45 official committee business, at rates established by the joint
 2-46 chairs of the Texas Legislative Council consistent with provisions
 2-47 of the General Appropriations Act; and, be it further

2-48 RESOLVED, That citizen members appointed by the governor to
 2-49 joint committees created pursuant to this resolution be reimbursed
 2-50 from funds appropriated to the office of the governor for expenses
 2-51 of travel on official committee business, at rates established by
 2-52 the joint chairs of the Texas Legislative Council consistent with
 2-53 provisions of the General Appropriations Act; and, be it further

2-54 RESOLVED, That citizen members appointed by the lieutenant
 2-55 governor to senate select committees and citizen members appointed
 2-56 by the speaker of the house of representatives to house committees
 2-57 expanded or created under House Rule 4, Sections 24, 57, and 58,
 2-58 when engaged in travel on official committee business, be
 2-59 reimbursed for (1) transportation expenses at the same rates as
 2-60 authorized for state employees by the General Appropriations Act,
 2-61 and (2) actual expenses for meals, lodging, and incidentals,
 2-62 subject to any maximum reimbursement limitations for meals and
 2-63 lodging set by the Senate Administration Committee for senate
 2-64 select committees and by the Committee on House Administration for
 2-65 house select committees; and, be it further

2-66 RESOLVED, That the Texas Legislative Council be authorized to
 2-67 reimburse the senate and house of representatives for expenses
 2-68 incurred by members of the senate and house for transportation,
 2-69 meals, lodging, and incidentals for travel on official business of

3-1 joint committees created pursuant to this resolution; and, be it
3-2 further

3-3 RESOLVED, That the final report of each joint committee be
3-4 approved by a majority of the voting membership of the committee;
3-5 dissenting voting members may attach statements to the final report
3-6 subject to any limitations specified in the rules adopted by the
3-7 committee; and, be it further

3-8 RESOLVED, That each joint committee created pursuant to this
3-9 resolution expire on January 13, 2009, or an earlier date specified
3-10 in the proclamation creating the committee.

3-11

* * * * *