

By: Krusee

H.J.R. No. 8

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 proposing a constitutional amendment providing for the issuance of
2 general obligation bonds by the Texas Transportation Commission to
3 provide funding for highway improvement projects.

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

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

7 Sec. 49-p. (a) To provide funding for highway improvement
8 projects, the legislature by general law may authorize the Texas
9 Transportation Commission or its successor to issue general
10 obligation bonds of the State of Texas in an aggregate amount not to
11 exceed \$5 billion and enter into related credit agreements. The
12 bonds shall be executed in the form, on the terms, and in the
13 denominations, bear interest, and be issued in installments as
14 prescribed by the Texas Transportation Commission or its successor.

15 (b) A portion of the proceeds from the sale of the bonds and
16 a portion of the interest earned on the bonds may be used to pay:

17 (1) the costs of administering projects authorized
18 under this section;

19 (2) the cost or expense of the issuance of the bonds;
20 and

21 (3) all or part of a payment owed or to be owed under a
22 credit agreement.

23 (c) The bonds authorized under this section constitute a
24 general obligation of the state. While any of the bonds or interest

1 on the bonds is outstanding and unpaid, there is appropriated out of
2 the first money coming into the treasury each fiscal year, not
3 otherwise appropriated by this constitution, an amount sufficient
4 to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds that mature or
5 become due during the fiscal year, including an amount sufficient
6 to make payments under a related credit agreement.

7 (d) Bonds issued under this section, after approval by the
8 attorney general, registration by the comptroller of public
9 accounts, and delivery to the purchasers, are incontestable and are
10 general obligations of the State of Texas under this constitution.

11 SECTION 2. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be
12 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 6, 2007.
13 The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the
14 proposition: "The constitutional amendment providing for the
15 issuance of general obligation bonds by the Texas Transportation
16 Commission in an amount not to exceed \$5 billion to provide funding
17 for highway improvement projects."