By: Herrero   H.J.R. No. 106

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, except

8 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 by

18 a two-thirds vote of each House, for the exemption of meetings from

19 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 <u>authority by the rules of that House to create a committee, and</u>

2 <u>includes working groups.</u>

3   SECTION 2. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be

4 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 8, 2007.

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."