

By: Smith of Tarrant

H.R. No. 2669

R E S O L U T I O N

1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the State of
2 Texas, That, in accordance with Section 11, Article III, Texas
3 Constitution, the House of Representatives of the 80th Legislature
4 shall elect a speaker of the house from its own membership as
5 follows:

6 SECTION 1. NOMINATIONS. (a) The presiding officer shall
7 call for nominations from the floor for the election of speaker of
8 the house of representatives and shall recognize every member who
9 desires to make a nomination.

10 (b) Each member recognized for this purpose shall
11 immediately advance to the front microphone and make the nomination
12 in a nominating speech not to exceed 10 minutes in length.

13 (c) After all nominations have been made, the presiding
14 officer shall declare nominations to be closed.

15 SECTION 2. VOTING PROCEDURES. (a) If there is only one
16 nominee for speaker, the members shall record their votes from
17 their desks on the voting machine.

18 (b) If there is more than one nominee for speaker, the chief
19 clerk shall prepare paper ballots containing the name of each
20 nominee and a space for indicating that the member casting the
21 ballot is present, not voting. One ballot shall be prepared for
22 each member and must contain the member's name and district number
23 and a space for the member's signature. The house sergeant shall
24 distribute each ballot to the appropriate member at the member's

1 desk.

2 (c) The chief clerk shall designate a voting area and shall
3 provide a voting box for the marked ballots. A member may mark and
4 sign the member's ballot either at the member's desk or at the
5 voting area.

6 (d) Each member shall be called individually by the reading
7 clerk in order of the member's district number and the member shall
8 proceed to the voting area when called. After arriving at the
9 voting area, the member shall fold the member's marked and signed
10 ballot and deposit it in the voting box.

11 (e) After all members have voted, the chief clerk, the
12 journal clerk, and the voting clerk shall publicly count the
13 ballots on the house floor. A ballot may not be counted unless it
14 bears the signature of the member for whom it was prepared. The
15 chief clerk shall prepare a tally sheet indicating how each member
16 voted, the total votes received by each nominee, and the total
17 number of members who are present, not voting.

18 (f) All votes taken shall be record votes with the vote of
19 each member entered in the House Journal.

20 SECTION 3. RESULTS; ADDITIONAL VOTING ROUNDS. (a) The
21 presiding officer shall announce the results of the election. The
22 chief clerk shall release a copy of the tally indicating how each
23 member voted as soon as possible after the presiding officer
24 announces the results.

25 (b) If a nominee receives a majority of the votes cast, the
26 presiding officer shall declare that nominee to be elected to the
27 office of speaker of the house of representatives. For purposes of

1 determining a majority of the votes cast for speaker under this
2 resolution, only a ballot marked for a single nominee is considered
3 a vote cast.

4 (c) If no nominee receives a majority of the votes cast, an
5 additional round of voting shall be conducted in accordance with
6 the procedures for the initial vote except that the ballots shall be
7 prepared to contain:

8 (1) the name of each nominee who received votes in the
9 preceding round of voting, other than the nominee who received the
10 fewest number of votes and each nominee who has withdrawn; and

11 (2) a space for indicating that the member casting the
12 vote is present, not voting.

13 (d) Following an additional round of voting under
14 Subsection (c) of this section, the presiding officer shall
15 announce the results and:

16 (1) if a nominee receives a majority of the votes cast,
17 the presiding officer shall declare that nominee to be elected to
18 the office of speaker of the house of representatives; or

19 (2) if no nominee receives a majority of the votes
20 cast, additional rounds of voting shall occur in the manner
21 provided by Subsection (c) of this section until a nominee receives
22 a majority of the votes cast.

23 SECTION 4. TIE VOTES. If in a round of voting under this
24 resolution no nominee receives a majority of the votes cast and it
25 is not possible to determine which nominee received the fewest
26 number of votes because of a tie vote, all nominees who received
27 votes in that round of voting, other than a nominee who withdraws,

1 shall be listed on the ballot in the subsequent round of voting.

2 SECTION 5. OATH. After the election, the presiding officer
3 shall direct the administration of the oath of office to the
4 speaker-elect. The speaker shall take the chair immediately after
5 taking the oath of office.