

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

1  
2 proposing a constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature  
3 to permit the voters of a municipality with a population of less  
4 than 10,000 to authorize the governing body of the municipality to  
5 enter into an agreement with an owner of real property in or  
6 adjacent to an area in the municipality that has been approved for  
7 funding under certain revitalization or redevelopment programs to  
8 prohibit ad valorem tax increases on the owner's property for a  
9 limited period.

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

11 SECTION 1. Article VIII, Texas Constitution, is amended by  
12 adding Section 1-o to read as follows:

13 Sec. 1-o. To aid in the elimination of slum and blighted  
14 conditions in less populated communities in this state, to promote  
15 rural economic development in this state, and to improve the  
16 economy of this state, the legislature by general law may authorize  
17 the governing body of a municipality having a population of less  
18 than 10,000, in the manner required by law, to call an election to  
19 permit the voters to determine by majority vote whether to  
20 authorize the governing body of the municipality to enter into an  
21 agreement with an owner of real property that is located in or  
22 adjacent to a designated area of the municipality that has been  
23 approved for funding under the Downtown Revitalization Program  
24 or the Main Street Improvements Program administered by the  
25 Department of Agriculture, or a successor program administered by

1 that agency, under which the parties agree that the ad valorem taxes  
2 imposed by any political subdivision on the owner's real property  
3 may not be increased for the first five tax years after the tax year  
4 in which the agreement is entered into, subject to the terms and  
5 conditions provided by the agreement. A general law enacted under  
6 this section must provide that, if authorized by the voters, an  
7 agreement to limit ad valorem tax increases authorized by this  
8 section:

9 (1) must be entered into by the governing body of the  
10 municipality and a property owner before December 31 of the tax year  
11 in which the election was held;

12 (2) takes effect as to a parcel of real property on  
13 January 1 of the tax year following the tax year in which the  
14 governing body and the property owner enter into the agreement;

15 (3) applies to ad valorem taxes imposed by any  
16 political subdivision on the real property covered by the  
17 agreement; and

18 (4) expires on the earlier of:

19 (A) January 1 of the sixth tax year following the  
20 tax year in which the governing body and the property owner enter  
21 into the agreement; or

22 (B) January 1 of the first tax year in which the  
23 owner of the property when the agreement was entered into ceases to  
24 own the property.

25 SECTION 2. The following temporary provision is added to  
26 the Texas Constitution:

27 TEMPORARY PROVISION. (a) This temporary provision applies

1 to the constitutional amendment proposed by the 80th Legislature,  
2 Regular Session, 2007, authorizing the legislature to permit the  
3 voters of a municipality having a population of less than 10,000 to  
4 authorize the governing body of the municipality to enter into an  
5 agreement with an owner of real property in or adjacent to an area  
6 in the municipality that has been approved for funding under  
7 certain revitalization or redevelopment programs to prohibit ad  
8 valorem tax increases on the owner's property for a limited period  
9 and expires January 1, 2009.

10 (b) Section 1-o, Article VIII, of this constitution takes  
11 effect January 1, 2008, and applies only to a tax year that begins  
12 on or after that date.

13 SECTION 3. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be  
14 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 6, 2007.  
15 The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the  
16 proposition: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the  
17 legislature to permit the voters of a municipality having a  
18 population of less than 10,000 to authorize the governing body of  
19 the municipality to enter into an agreement with an owner of real  
20 property in or adjacent to an area in the municipality that has been  
21 approved for funding under certain programs administered by the  
22 Texas Department of Agriculture under which the parties agree that  
23 all ad valorem taxes imposed on the owner's property may not be  
24 increased for the first five tax years after the tax year in which  
25 the agreement is entered into."

---

President of the Senate

---

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.J.R. No. 44 was adopted by the Senate on April 27, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

---

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.J.R. No. 44 was adopted by the House on May 22, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 149, Nays 0, one present not voting.

---

Chief Clerk of the House