

By: Williams

S.J.R. No. 65

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 proposing a constitutional amendment authorizing the issuance of  
2 general obligation bonds for maintenance, repair, and construction  
3 projects and for the salaries of related employees.

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 50-g to read as follows:

7 Sec. 50-g. (a) The legislature by general law may authorize  
8 the Texas Public Finance Authority to provide for, issue, and sell  
9 general obligation bonds of the State of Texas in an amount not to  
10 exceed \$1 billion and to enter into related credit agreements. The  
11 bonds shall be executed in the form, on the terms, and in the  
12 denominations, bear interest, and be issued in installments as  
13 prescribed by the Texas Public Finance Authority.

14 (b) Proceeds from the sale of the bonds shall be deposited  
15 in a separate fund or account within the state treasury created by  
16 the comptroller for this purpose. Money in the separate fund or  
17 account may be used only to pay for:

18 (1) maintenance, improvement, repair, or construction  
19 projects authorized by the legislature by general law or the  
20 General Appropriations Act and administered by or on behalf of the  
21 Texas Building and Procurement Commission, the Parks and Wildlife  
22 Department, the adjutant general's department, or the Department of  
23 Public Safety of the State of Texas; or

24 (2) salaries, as authorized by the legislature by

1 general law or the General Appropriations Act, of full-time  
2 equivalent state agency employees needed as a result of and  
3 following the completion of a project described by Subdivision (1)  
4 of this subsection.

5 (c) The maximum net effective interest rate to be borne by  
6 bonds issued under this section may be set by general law.

7 (d) While any of the bonds or interest on the bonds  
8 authorized by this section is outstanding and unpaid, from the  
9 first money coming into the state treasury in each fiscal year not  
10 otherwise appropriated by this constitution, an amount sufficient  
11 to pay the principal and interest on bonds that mature or become due  
12 during the fiscal year and to make payments that become due under a  
13 related credit agreement during the fiscal year is appropriated,  
14 less the amount in the sinking fund at the close of the previous  
15 fiscal year.

16 (e) Bonds issued under this section, after approval by the  
17 attorney general, registration by the comptroller of public  
18 accounts, and delivery to the purchasers, are incontestable and are  
19 general obligations of the State of Texas under this constitution.

20 SECTION 2. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be  
21 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 6, 2007.  
22 The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the  
23 proposition: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the  
24 issuance of up to \$1 billion in bonds payable from the general  
25 revenues of the state for maintenance, repair, and construction  
26 projects."