

By: Carona

S.J.R. No. 16

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 proposing a constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature
2 to exempt from ad valorem taxation a high-speed passenger rail
3 facility.

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

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

7 Sec. 1-p. (a) In this section:

8 (1) "High-speed rail" means a rail technology that
9 permits the operation of rolling stock between scheduled stops at
10 speeds of at least 125 miles per hour.

11 (2) "Rolling stock" means high-speed electrically
12 propelled trains that run on rails or electromagnetic guideways.

13 (b) The legislature by general law may exempt from ad
14 valorem taxation a high-speed passenger rail facility. A general
15 law enacted under this section may limit the period for which such a
16 facility may be exempted from ad valorem taxation.

17 SECTION 2. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be
18 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 3, 2009.
19 The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the
20 proposition: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the
21 legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation a high-speed
22 passenger rail facility."