

By: Carona

S.J.R. No. 17

1 JOINT RESOLUTION

2 proposing a constitutional amendment to restrict the power of the
3 legislature to mandate requirements upon certain local
4 governments.

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

6 SECTION 1. Article III, Texas Constitution, is amended by
7 adding Section 68 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 68. (a) No bill enacted by the legislature on or after
9 January 1, 2012, requiring a local government to establish, expand,
10 or modify a duty or activity that requires the expenditure of
11 revenue by the local government shall be effective until and unless
12 the legislature appropriates or otherwise provides for the payment
13 or reimbursement, from a source other than the revenue of the local
14 government, of the costs incurred for the biennium by the local
15 government in complying with the requirement.

16 (b) For the purpose of this section, "local government"
17 includes a county, a city, a hospital district, a community college
18 district, or a special district created by the action of a county,
19 city, hospital district, or community college.

20 SECTION 2. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be
21 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 8, 2011.
22 The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the
23 proposition: "The constitutional amendment to restrict the power
24 of the legislature from mandating unfunded requirements upon local

1 governments."