

By: Isaac

H.J.R. No. 110

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 proposing a constitutional amendment relating to a person's freedom  
2 of religion.

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

4 SECTION 1. Section 6, Article I, Texas Constitution, is  
5 amended to read as follows:

6 Sec. 6. (a) All men have a natural and infeasible right  
7 to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their own  
8 consciences. No man shall be compelled to attend, erect or support  
9 any place of worship, or to maintain any ministry against his  
10 consent. No human authority ought, in any case whatever, to control  
11 or interfere with the rights of conscience in matters of religion,  
12 and no preference shall ever be given by law to any religious  
13 society or mode of worship.

14 (b) Government may not burden a person's or religious  
15 organization's Freedom of Religion. The right to act or refuse to  
16 act in a manner motivated by a sincerely held religious belief may  
17 not be burdened unless the government proves it has a compelling  
18 governmental interest in infringing the specific act or refusal to  
19 act and has used the least restrictive means to further that  
20 interest. A burden includes indirect burdens such as withholding  
21 benefits, assessing penalties, or an exclusion from programs or  
22 access to facilities.

23 (c) But it shall be the duty of the Legislature to pass such  
24 laws as may be necessary to protect equally every religious

1 denomination in the peaceable enjoyment of its own mode of public  
2 worship.

3           SECTION 2. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be  
4 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 5, 2013.  
5 The ballot shall be printed to provide for voting for or against the  
6 proposition: "The constitutional amendment relating to a person's  
7 freedom of religion."