

By: Harper-Brown

H.J.R. No. 145

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 proposing a constitutional amendment providing for the election of
2 all county commissioners if the boundaries of commissioners
3 precincts change following a federal decennial census.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 18, Article V, Texas Constitution, is
6 amended by amending Subsections (b) and (d) and adding Subsection
7 (d-1) to read as follows:

8 (b) Each county shall, in the manner provided for justice of
9 the peace and constable precincts, be divided into four
10 commissioners precincts in each of which there shall be elected by
11 the qualified voters thereof one County Commissioner, who shall
12 hold his office for four years and until his successor shall be
13 elected and qualified, except as provided by Subsection (d-1) of
14 this section. The County Commissioners so chosen, with the County
15 Judge as presiding officer, shall compose the County Commissioners
16 Court, which shall exercise such powers and jurisdiction over all
17 county business, as is conferred by this Constitution and the laws
18 of the State, or as may be hereafter prescribed.

19 (d) Except as provided by Subsection (d-1), when ~~When~~ the
20 boundaries of commissioners precincts are changed, each
21 commissioner in office on the effective date of the change, or
22 elected to a term of office beginning on or after the effective date
23 of the change, shall serve in the precinct to which each was elected
24 or appointed for the entire term to which each was elected or

1 appointed, even though the change in boundaries places the person's
2 residence outside the precinct for which he was elected or
3 appointed.

4 (d-1) All commissioners shall be elected in a year in which
5 the boundaries of a county's commissioners precincts are changed
6 following the release of a federal decennial census. After
7 election, the commissioners elected shall be divided by lot into
8 two classes. The seats of the commissioners of the first class shall
9 be vacated at the expiration of the first two years, and those of
10 the second class at the expiration of four years, so that one-half
11 of the commissioners shall be chosen biennially thereafter.

12 SECTION 2. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be
13 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 5, 2013.
14 The ballot shall be printed to provide for voting for or against the
15 proposition: "The constitutional amendment providing for the
16 election of all county commissioners if the boundaries of
17 commissioners precincts change following a federal decennial
18 census."