

By: Hunter

H.R. No. 2

R E S O L U T I O N

1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the State of  
2 Texas, That, in accordance with Sections 9(b) and 11, Article III,  
3 Texas Constitution, the House of Representatives of the 83rd  
4 Legislature shall elect a speaker of the house from its own  
5 membership as follows:

6 SECTION 1. NOMINATIONS. (a) The secretary of state shall  
7 call for nominations from the floor for the election of speaker of  
8 the house of representatives and shall recognize every member who  
9 desires to make a nomination. The order in which members desiring  
10 to make a nomination shall proceed shall be determined by lot.

11 (b) Each member recognized for this purpose shall  
12 immediately advance to the front microphone and make the nomination  
13 in a nominating speech not to exceed five minutes in length.

14 (c) After all nominations have been made, the secretary of  
15 state shall declare nominations to be closed.

16 SECTION 2. SECONDS. (a) A person is not considered a  
17 nominee unless the nomination is seconded by at least one member.

18 (b) One seconding speech shall be allowed for each  
19 nomination in the order in which nominations were made, then other  
20 seconding speeches shall be allowed in rotation in the same order.

21 (c) No more than five seconding speeches shall be allowed  
22 for each nominee.

23 (d) A seconding speech may not exceed three minutes in  
24 length.

1           SECTION 3. VOTING PROCEDURES: VOTING MACHINE. (a) If  
2 after the close of all seconding speeches only one nominee remains  
3 for election to the speaker, the secretary of state shall recognize  
4 a motion to elect that nominee by acclamation. If no motion is made  
5 or five or more members make a written request for a record vote,  
6 the members shall record their votes from their desks on the voting  
7 machine with the yeas and nays taken as in other record votes of the  
8 house.

9           (b) If there are two or three nominees for speaker, the  
10 members shall record their votes from their desks on the voting  
11 machine with a different colored light on the machine indicating a  
12 vote for each nominee. If the nominees cannot agree on the color  
13 that will indicate a vote for each nominee, the presiding officer  
14 shall draw lots to determine the color for each nominee.

15           (c) Before the close of voting on the voting machine, the  
16 presiding officer shall provide several warnings to the members  
17 that the voting period is about to close.

18           (d) A verification of a vote taken by voting machine shall  
19 be by roll call vote, with the members seated and the house at  
20 order, beginning with the members recorded as voting for the  
21 nominee with the most votes. During verification, a member may not  
22 change a vote unless it was erroneously recorded, and any member not  
23 having voted for a nominee may not cast a vote.

24           (e) If there are three nominees for speaker, a member who  
25 does not cast a vote for a nominee but who was recorded as present at  
26 the initial roll call shall be recorded as "present, not voting" in  
27 the record of the vote.

1           SECTION 4. VOTING PROCEDURES: ROLL CALL VOTE. (a) If there  
2 are more than three nominees for speaker, the election shall be held  
3 in the manner provided for a roll call vote of the members with the  
4 chief clerk calling the members' names in alphabetical order. When  
5 the chief clerk reads aloud the name of a member, the member shall  
6 vote by stating the name of one of the nominees or state that the  
7 member is present, not voting. The chief clerk shall repeat the  
8 member's vote aloud and record the vote on a tally sheet.

9           (b) After all members have announced their votes, the chief  
10 clerk shall prepare a report containing the total votes received by  
11 each nominee and the total number of members who are present, not  
12 voting. The chief clerk shall provide a copy of the report to the  
13 secretary of state.

14           (c) A verification of a vote taken by roll call consists  
15 solely of ensuring that an announced vote was tallied correctly.

16           SECTION 5. RECORD VOTE. All votes taken shall be record  
17 votes with the vote of each member entered in the House Journal.

18           SECTION 6. RESULTS; RUNOFF. (a) The secretary of state  
19 shall announce the results of the election. If a nominee receives a  
20 majority of the votes cast, the secretary of state shall declare  
21 that nominee to be elected to the office of speaker of the house of  
22 representatives.

23           (b) If no nominee receives a majority of the votes cast, the  
24 two nominees receiving the largest number of votes in the initial  
25 vote shall be in a runoff conducted by voting machine as provided by  
26 Section 3 of this resolution. The secretary of state shall announce  
27 the results of the runoff and declare the nominee receiving a

1 majority of the votes cast to be elected.

2           SECTION 7. TIE VOTES. (a) If in the initial vote no nominee  
3 receives a majority of the votes cast and it is not possible to  
4 determine the two nominees receiving the largest number of votes  
5 cast because of a tie vote, additional rounds of voting shall occur  
6 among the same nominees, other than a nominee who withdraws, until a  
7 nominee receives a majority of the votes cast or, if no nominee  
8 receives a majority of the votes cast, until it is possible to  
9 determine the two nominees who receive the largest number of votes  
10 cast.

11           (b) If in a runoff between two nominees no nominee receives  
12 a majority of the votes cast because of a tie vote, additional  
13 rounds of runoff voting shall occur between the same two nominees  
14 until one of the nominees in the runoff receives a majority of the  
15 votes cast.

16           SECTION 8. OATH. After the election, the secretary of state  
17 shall direct the administration of the oath of office to the  
18 speaker-elect. The speaker shall take the chair immediately after  
19 taking the oath of office.

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1 Providing for the election of the speaker of the house.