

By: White of Tyler

H.J.R. No. 44

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 proposing a constitutional amendment to require that proposed
2 constitutional amendments be approved by a majority of the voters
3 in at least half of the counties of this state.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 1(c), Article XVII, Texas Constitution,
6 is amended to read as follows:

7 (c) The election shall be held in accordance with procedures
8 prescribed by the Legislature, and the returning officer in each
9 county shall make returns to the Secretary of State of the number of
10 legal votes cast at the election for and against each amendment. If
11 it appears from the returns that a majority of the votes cast have
12 been cast in favor of an amendment, and that in at least half of the
13 counties in this state a majority of the votes cast have been cast
14 in favor of the amendment, it shall become a part of this
15 Constitution, and proclamation thereof shall be made by the
16 Governor.

17 SECTION 2. The following temporary provision is added to
18 the Texas Constitution:

19 TEMPORARY PROVISION. (a) This temporary provision applies
20 to the constitutional amendment proposed by the 84th Legislature,
21 Regular Session, 2015, relating to requiring that future
22 constitutional amendments become effective if approved by a
23 majority of voters in the state and by a majority of voters in at
24 least half of the counties of the state.

1 (b) The amendment to Section 1(c), Article XVII, of this
2 constitution takes effect January 1, 2016.

3 (c) This temporary provision expires January 1, 2017.

4 SECTION 3. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be
5 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 3, 2015.
6 The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the
7 proposition: "The constitutional amendment to require that future
8 constitutional amendments become effective if approved by a
9 majority of voters in the state and by a majority of voters in at
10 least half of the counties of the state."