

By: Metcalf

H.J.R. No. 53

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 proposing a constitutional amendment dedicating certain revenue  
2 derived from the tax imposed on the sale of motor vehicles to the  
3 state highway fund.

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

5 SECTION 1. Article VIII, Texas Constitution, is amended by  
6 adding Section 7-c to read as follows:

7 Sec. 7-c. (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b) of this  
8 section, the net revenue derived from the tax authorized by Chapter  
9 152, Tax Code, or its successor, and imposed on the sale of a motor  
10 vehicle sold in this state shall be deposited to the credit of the  
11 state highway fund and may be appropriated only:

12 (1) for a purpose authorized by Section 7-a, Article  
13 VIII, of this constitution; or

14 (2) to repay the principal and interest on general  
15 obligation bonds issued as authorized by Section 49-p, Article III,  
16 of this constitution.

17 (b) Subsection (a) of this section does not apply to any  
18 revenue described by that subsection that, under general law in  
19 effect on January 1, 2015, was required to be deposited to the  
20 credit of a fund outside the general revenue fund from which money  
21 could be appropriated only for a purpose that decreases the rates  
22 of, or reduces reliance on, ad valorem taxes imposed to fund public  
23 schools. To the extent general law continues to require the deposit  
24 of that revenue in that manner and limit the appropriation of that

1 revenue to that purpose, the requirement and limitation prevail  
2 over Subsection (a) of this section.

3 SECTION 2. The following temporary provision is added to  
4 the Texas Constitution:

5 TEMPORARY PROVISION. (a) This temporary provision applies  
6 to the constitutional amendment proposed by the 84th Legislature,  
7 Regular Session, 2015, dedicating certain revenue derived from the  
8 tax imposed on the sale of a motor vehicle sold in this state to the  
9 state highway fund.

10 (b) The changes to Article VIII of this constitution made by  
11 the amendment take effect September 1, 2026.

12 (c) Beginning with the state fiscal year beginning on  
13 September 1, 2026, the legislature may not appropriate any revenue  
14 to which Section 7-c(a), Article VIII, of this constitution applies  
15 for any purpose other than a purpose described by Section 7-c(a),  
16 Article VIII, of this constitution.

17 (d) In each state fiscal year that begins on or after  
18 September 1, 2017, but before September 1, 2026, the legislature  
19 shall decrease in equal increments each year the amount of revenue  
20 to which Section 7-c(a), Article VIII, of this constitution applies  
21 that is appropriated for any purpose other than a purpose described  
22 by Section 7-c(a), Article VIII, of this constitution as necessary  
23 to comply with Subsection (c) of this temporary provision beginning  
24 September 1, 2026.

25 (e) This temporary provision expires September 1, 2027.

26 SECTION 3. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be  
27 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 3, 2015.

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1 The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the  
2 proposition: "The constitutional amendment dedicating certain  
3 revenue derived from the tax imposed on a sale of a motor vehicle  
4 sold in this state to the state highway fund."