

1                               SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2               WHEREAS, The Texas Legislature for each of the last 16  
3 regular sessions has adopted a concurrent resolution authorizing  
4 the creation and appointment of joint interim legislative study  
5 committees by the lieutenant governor and speaker of the house of  
6 representatives; and

7               WHEREAS, Renewal of the prior authorizations to the presiding  
8 officers enables the legislature to address and study issues that  
9 remain unresolved on sine die adjournment or that emerge subsequent  
10 to that time; and

11              WHEREAS, It is also desirable to adopt by resolution various  
12 rules and policies regarding the operation of joint committees to  
13 supplement, and reconcile differences between, the senate and house  
14 rules of procedure; now, therefore, be it

15              RESOLVED, That the 84th Legislature of the State of Texas  
16 hereby authorize the lieutenant governor and speaker of the house  
17 of representatives to create by mutual agreement such joint  
18 committees as they consider necessary during the term of this  
19 legislature; and, be it further

20              RESOLVED, That each joint committee created pursuant to this  
21 resolution be composed of such combination of legislators, state  
22 officials, or citizen members as shall be determined mutually by  
23 the presiding officers of each house; and, be it further

24              RESOLVED, That on the request of the presiding officers, the

1 governor may appoint members to a joint committee created pursuant  
2 to this resolution; and, be it further

3         RESOLVED, That the presiding officers issue for each  
4 committee so created a joint proclamation identifying the issue or  
5 issues to be studied and listing the committee membership or  
6 describing the committee composition and that the proclamation be  
7 filed with the secretary of the senate and the chief clerk of the  
8 house of representatives; and, be it further

9         RESOLVED, That the presiding officers designate jointly a  
10 chair, or designate alternatively two co-chairs, from among the  
11 committee membership; and, be it further

12         RESOLVED, That the chair or co-chairs, acting jointly and  
13 within four weeks of the proclamation, prepare and present to the  
14 presiding officers a proposal for budget and staffing; and, be it  
15 further

16         RESOLVED, That the chair or co-chairs be directed to use to  
17 the greatest extent possible the existing staff and administrative  
18 resources of committee members, standing committees, officers of  
19 the senate and house, and legislative service agencies; and, be it  
20 further

21         RESOLVED, That the presiding officers jointly review each  
22 budget and staffing proposal, adopt budgetary and staffing  
23 allocations, and determine the manner in which each joint committee  
24 is to be funded; and, be it further

25         RESOLVED, That the joint committee chair, or the co-chairs  
26 acting by mutual agreement, have authority to create and appoint  
27 subcommittees or affiliated advisory panels and to designate

1 respective chairs for each, contingent on the advance approval of  
2 the presiding officers for the creation and appointment of  
3 subcommittees or advisory panels containing membership external to  
4 the committee; and, be it further

5       RESOLVED, That each joint committee, and its subcommittees  
6 and advisory panels, convene at the call of its chair or co-chairs;  
7 provided that no joint committee, nor its subcommittees or advisory  
8 panels, shall convene in a public hearing or other meeting for the  
9 transaction of business unless public notice has been posted by its  
10 chair or co-chairs at the locations specified by the senate and  
11 house rules of procedure for posting of notice of standing  
12 committee meetings at least five calendar days in advance of the  
13 hearing or meeting; and, be it further

14       RESOLVED, That the preceding clause be construed, for  
15 purposes of Section 551.046, Government Code, as a joint rule of the  
16 senate and house of representatives controlling the posting of  
17 notice for joint committees, and their subcommittees and advisory  
18 panels, in lieu of required posting with the secretary of state;  
19 and, be it further

20       RESOLVED, That each joint committee have authority to issue  
21 process as provided in Sections 301.024-301.027, Government Code,  
22 provided that any motion for the issuance of process must receive  
23 the record vote of at least two-thirds of those present and voting,  
24 a quorum being present; and, be it further

25       RESOLVED, That each joint committee be entitled to accept  
26 grants and donations as provided by Sections 301.032(b) and (c),  
27 Government Code, and that, on expiration of a joint committee, any

1 unexpended funds remaining from a grant or donation be transferred  
2 in equal proportions to the accounts of the senate and house of  
3 representatives unless otherwise provided by the grantor or donor;  
4 and, be it further

5         RESOLVED, That each joint committee, except as modified by or  
6 pursuant to this resolution, have all other powers and duties  
7 provided to special committees by Subchapter B, Chapter 301,  
8 Government Code, and the senate and house rules of procedure; and,  
9 be it further

10         RESOLVED, That the operating accounts for each joint  
11 committee created pursuant to this resolution and any grants and  
12 donations that such committee may receive be administered by the  
13 accounting and purchasing sections of the Texas Legislative  
14 Council; and, be it further

15         RESOLVED, That the Texas Legislative Council accounting and  
16 purchasing sections prepare, under the guidance of the presiding  
17 officers, a manual of procedures for joint committees and other  
18 entities created by the legislature for which funds are to be  
19 administered by the Texas Legislative Council establishing  
20 requirements as to printing needs, accounting procedures, ultimate  
21 disposition of records, and other administrative and financial  
22 matters; and, be it further

23         RESOLVED, That citizen members appointed by the lieutenant  
24 governor or speaker of the house of representatives to joint  
25 committees created pursuant to this resolution be reimbursed from  
26 funds appropriated to the Texas Legislative Council for expenses of  
27 transportation, meals, lodging, and incidentals for travel on

1 official committee business, at rates established by the joint  
2 chairs of the Texas Legislative Council consistent with provisions  
3 of the General Appropriations Act; and, be it further

4       RESOLVED, That citizen members appointed by the governor to  
5 joint committees created pursuant to this resolution be reimbursed  
6 from funds appropriated to the office of the governor for expenses  
7 of travel on official committee business, at rates established by  
8 the joint chairs of the Texas Legislative Council consistent with  
9 provisions of the General Appropriations Act; and, be it further

10       RESOLVED, That citizen members appointed by the lieutenant  
11 governor to senate select committees and citizen members appointed  
12 by the speaker of the house of representatives to house committees  
13 expanded or created under House Rule 4, Sections 24, 57, and 58,  
14 when engaged in travel on official committee business, be  
15 reimbursed for (1) transportation expenses at the same rates as  
16 authorized for state employees by the General Appropriations Act,  
17 and (2) actual expenses for meals, lodging, and incidentals,  
18 subject to any maximum reimbursement limitations for meals and  
19 lodging set by the Senate Administration Committee for senate  
20 select committees and by the Committee on House Administration for  
21 house select committees; and, be it further

22       RESOLVED, That the Texas Legislative Council be authorized to  
23 reimburse the senate and house of representatives for expenses  
24 incurred by members of the senate and house for transportation,  
25 meals, lodging, and incidentals for travel on official business of  
26 joint committees created pursuant to this resolution; and, be it  
27 further

1           RESOLVED, That the final report of each joint committee be  
2 approved by a majority of the voting membership of the committee;  
3 dissenting voting members may attach statements to the final report  
4 subject to any limitations specified in the rules adopted by the  
5 committee; and, be it further

6           RESOLVED, That each joint committee created pursuant to this  
7 resolution expire on January 10, 2017, or an earlier date specified  
8 in the proclamation creating the committee.

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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.C.R. No. 9 was adopted by the Senate on April 30, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

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Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.C.R. No. 9 was adopted by the House on May 27, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 147, Nays 0, two present not voting.

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Chief Clerk of the House