

By: Perry

S.J.R. No. 47

JOINT RESOLUTION

proposing a constitutional amendment authorizing the issuance of general obligation bonds to pay for certain state infrastructure projects.

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

SECTION 1. Article III, Texas Constitution, is amended by adding Section 50-i to read as follows:

Sec. 50-i. (a) The legislature by general law may authorize the Texas Public Finance Authority to provide for, issue, and sell general obligation bonds of the State of Texas in a total amount not to exceed \$1 billion and to enter into related credit agreements. The bonds may be executed only as prescribed by the Texas Public Finance Authority as to the form of execution, terms, denominations, interest rates, and issuance, in installments or otherwise, in accordance with general law.

(b) The state infrastructure projects fund is a fund created in the state treasury outside of the general revenue fund to be administered by the Texas Public Finance Authority.

(c) The Texas Public Finance Authority shall deposit the proceeds from the sale of the bonds to the credit of the state infrastructure projects fund. Money credited to the state infrastructure projects fund under this section may be used only in accordance with legislative appropriations and only to pay for projects to repair, renovate, rehabilitate, or construct state

1 infrastructure other than transportation infrastructure and higher  
2 education facilities. In this subsection:

3 (1) "Transportation infrastructure" means roads,  
4 streets, ways, bridges, or culverts.

5 (2) "Higher education facilities" means property,  
6 buildings, structures, or other facilities used or intended to be  
7 used by a public institution of higher education.

8 (d) The maximum net effective interest rate to be borne by  
9 bonds issued under this section may be established by general law.

10 (e) While any of the bonds authorized by this section, or  
11 any interest on those bonds, is outstanding and unpaid, from the  
12 first money coming into the state treasury in each state fiscal year  
13 not otherwise appropriated by this constitution, there is  
14 appropriated an amount sufficient to pay the principal and interest  
15 on those bonds that mature or become due during the fiscal year and  
16 to make payments that become due under a related credit agreement  
17 during the fiscal year.

18 (f) Bonds issued under this section, after approval by the  
19 attorney general, registration by the comptroller of public  
20 accounts, and delivery to the purchasers, are incontestable and are  
21 general obligations of the State of Texas under this constitution.

22 SECTION 2. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be  
23 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 7, 2017.  
24 The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the  
25 proposition: "The constitutional amendment to authorize the  
26 issuance of up to \$1 billion in bonds to pay for certain state  
27 infrastructure projects and the repayment of those bonds from the

1 general revenues of the state."