

By: Taylor of Galveston

S.J.R. No. 54

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 proposing a constitutional amendment authorizing a municipal  
2 charter amendment election to be held on certain election dates.

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

4 SECTION 1. Section 5(a), Article XI, Texas Constitution, is  
5 amended to read as follows:

6 (a) Cities having more than five thousand (5000)  
7 inhabitants may, by a majority vote of the qualified voters of said  
8 city, at an election held for that purpose, adopt or amend their  
9 charters. An election to amend a charter may be held on an election  
10 date prescribed by the Legislature. If the number of inhabitants of  
11 cities that have adopted or amended their charters under this  
12 section is reduced to five thousand (5000) or fewer, the cities  
13 still may amend their charters by a majority vote of the qualified  
14 voters of said city at an election held for that purpose. The  
15 adoption or amendment of charters is subject to such limitations as  
16 may be prescribed by the Legislature, and no charter or any  
17 ordinance passed under said charter shall contain any provision  
18 inconsistent with the Constitution of the State, or of the general  
19 laws enacted by the Legislature of this State. Said cities may  
20 levy, assess and collect such taxes as may be authorized by law or  
21 by their charters; but no tax for any purpose shall ever be lawful  
22 for any one year, which shall exceed two and one-half per cent. of  
23 the taxable property of such city, and no debt shall ever be created  
24 by any city, unless at the same time provision be made to assess and

1 collect annually a sufficient sum to pay the interest thereon and  
2 creating a sinking fund of at least two per cent. thereon, except as  
3 provided by Subsection (b). Furthermore, no city charter shall be  
4 altered, amended or repealed oftener than every two years, except  
5 that a subsequent charter election may be held on a date prescribed  
6 by the Legislature even if that date falls a number of days short of  
7 two years.

8 SECTION 2. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be  
9 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 7, 2017.  
10 The ballot shall be printed to provide for voting for or against the  
11 proposition: "The constitutional amendment authorizing a  
12 municipal charter amendment election to be held on an election date  
13 prescribed by the legislature."