

By: Thompson of Harris

H.J.R. No. 130

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 proposing a constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature  
2 to enact laws providing for a court to grant a commutation of  
3 punishment to a person who has successfully served the required  
4 number of years on parole.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 11(a), Article IV, Texas Constitution,  
7 is amended to read as follows:

8 (a) The Legislature shall by law establish a Board of  
9 Pardons and Paroles and shall require it to keep record of its  
10 actions and the reasons for its actions. The Legislature shall have  
11 authority to enact parole laws, including laws authorizing a court  
12 to grant a commutation of punishment to a person who has  
13 successfully served the specified number of years on parole  
14 required by law, and laws that require or permit courts to inform  
15 juries about the effect of good conduct time and eligibility for  
16 parole or mandatory supervision on the period of incarceration  
17 served by a defendant convicted of a criminal offense.

18 SECTION 2. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be  
19 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 5, 2019.  
20 The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the  
21 proposition: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the  
22 legislature to enact laws providing for a court to grant a  
23 commutation of punishment to a person who has successfully served  
24 the required number of years on parole."