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By:  Thompson of Harris H.J.R. No. 10

A JOINT RESOLUTION

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

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

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

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

SECTION 2.  This proposed constitutional amendment shall be submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 2, 2021. The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the proposition: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to enact laws providing for a court to grant a commutation of punishment to a person who has successfully served the required number of years on parole."