87R11430 SLB-D

By:  Hall S.J.R. No. 60

A JOINT RESOLUTION

proposing a constitutional amendment regarding certain actions involving the conduct of elections and the powers of the legislature to file certain actions against the governor and other state officials.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 3, Article V, Texas Constitution, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsections (a-1) and (a-2) to read as follows:

(a)  The Supreme Court shall exercise the judicial power of the state except as otherwise provided in this Constitution. Its jurisdiction shall be co-extensive with the limits of the State and its determinations shall be final except in criminal law matters. Its appellate jurisdiction shall be final and shall extend to all cases except in criminal law matters and as otherwise provided in this Constitution or by law. The Supreme Court and the Justices thereof shall have power to issue writs of habeas corpus, as may be prescribed by law, and under such regulations as may be prescribed by law, the [~~said~~] courts and the Justices thereof may issue the writs of mandamus, procedendo, certiorari and such other writs, as may be necessary to enforce its jurisdiction.

(a-1)  Except as provided by Subsection (a-2) of this section, the [~~The~~] Legislature may confer original jurisdiction on the Supreme Court to issue writs of quo warranto and mandamus in such cases as may be specified, except as against the Governor [~~of the State~~].

(a-2)  A member of the Legislature has standing to participate as a party in a suit against the Governor or other state official for a violation of any law related to the conduct of elections, including an action for a writ of mandamus to compel the Governor or other state official to comply with a law related to the conduct of elections. The Supreme Court has original jurisdiction of a suit brought under this subsection and shall give preference to such a suit.

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 provide for voting for or against the proposition: "The constitutional amendment regarding certain actions involving the conduct of elections and the powers of the legislature to file certain actions against the governor and other state officials."