

By: Krause

H.J.R. No. 47

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 proposing a constitutional amendment requiring the governor to
2 convene the legislature in special session following certain
3 disaster or emergency declarations and specifying the powers of the
4 legislature in those special sessions.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 8, Article IV, Texas Constitution, is
7 amended by adding Subsections (c), (d), and (e) to read as follows:

8 (c) The Governor shall convene the Legislature in special
9 session for the purposes described by Subsection (d) of this
10 section when the Governor proposes to renew an order or
11 proclamation declaring a state of disaster or emergency.

12 (d) In a special session convened under Subsection (c) of
13 this section, the Legislature may:

14 (1) renew or extend the state of disaster or
15 emergency;

16 (2) respond to the state of disaster or emergency,
17 including by:

18 (A) passing laws and resolutions the Legislature
19 determines are related to the state of disaster or emergency; and

20 (B) exercising the powers reserved to the
21 Legislature under Section 28, Article I, of this Constitution; and

22 (3) consider any other subjects stated in the
23 Governor's proclamation convening the Legislature.

24 (e) A state of disaster or emergency declared by the

1 Governor may not continue for more than 30 days unless it is renewed
2 or extended by the Legislature under Subsection (d) of this
3 section.

4 SECTION 2. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be
5 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 2, 2021.
6 The ballot shall be printed to provide for voting for or against the
7 proposition: "The constitutional amendment requiring the governor
8 to convene the legislature in special session following certain
9 disaster or emergency declarations and specifying the powers of the
10 legislature in those special sessions."