

By: Goodwin

H.J.R. No. 119

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 proposing a constitutional amendment guaranteeing the right to a
2 clean and healthy environment.

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

4 SECTION 1. Article I, Texas Constitution, is amended by
5 adding Section 36 to read as follows:

6 Sec. 36. (a) The public, individually and collectively,
7 has the right to a clean and healthy environment, including clean
8 water, clean air, healthy soil, and diverse and abundant native
9 flora and fauna, and to the preservation of the natural, cultural,
10 scenic, recreational, and healthful qualities of the environment.
11 The right to a clean and healthy environment is inherent,
12 inalienable, indefeasible, and equal with other protected
13 inalienable rights of liberty reserved to the public. The state
14 shall equitably protect this right for the public and may not take
15 any action to infringe on this right.

16 (b) The public natural resources of this state are the
17 common property of all persons, including future generations. The
18 state, including the legislative, judicial, and executive branches
19 and each state agency and political subdivision, shall conserve,
20 protect, and maintain the state's public natural resources for the
21 benefit of the public, including future generations.

22 (c) This section is self-executing.

23 SECTION 2. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be
24 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 7, 2023.

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1 The ballot shall be printed to provide for voting for or against the
2 proposition: "The constitutional amendment guaranteeing the right
3 to a clean and healthy environment."