By: King of Hemphill

H.J.R. No. 154

A JOINT RESOLUTION

- 1 proposing a constitutional amendment providing for the creation of
- 2 the centennial parks conservation fund to be administered by the
- 3 Parks and Wildlife Department.
- 4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
- 5 SECTION 1. Article III, Texas Constitution, is amended by
- 6 adding Section 49-e-1 to read as follows:
- 7 Sec. 49-e-1. (a) The centennial parks conservation fund is
- 8 created as a special fund in the state treasury outside the general
- 9 revenue fund. Money in the centennial parks conservation fund
- 10 shall be administered, without further appropriation, by the Parks
- 11 and Wildlife Department or the department's successor in function.
- 12 <u>In accordance with general law, the centennial parks conservation</u>
- 13 <u>fund may be used only for the creation and improvement of state and</u>
- 14 local parks and the conservation of land, water, and soil in this
- 15 state. Separate accounts may be established in the centennial
- 16 parks conservation fund as necessary or convenient to administer
- 17 the fund or the supported projects.
- 18 <u>(b) The legislature by general law may authorize the Parks</u>
- 19 and Wildlife Department or the department's successor in function
- 20 to use the centennial parks conservation fund to provide financial
- 21 assistance to support projects for public purposes consistent with
- 22 this section through grants administered by the department or the
- 23 department's successor in function. The financial assistance
- 24 authorized by this subsection may be provided directly to public or

- 1 private entities as provided by general law.
- 2 (c) In accordance with general law, the Parks and Wildlife
- 3 Department or the department's successor in function may, at that
- 4 entity's discretion, transfer money from the centennial parks
- 5 conservation fund to other programs and funds of the department or
- 6 the department's successor in function.
- 7 (d) The centennial parks conservation fund consists of:
- 8 (1) money appropriated to the fund;
- 9 (2) money transferred or deposited to the credit of
- 10 the fund by general law;
- 11 (3) investment earnings and interest earned on amounts
- 12 credited to the fund; and
- 13 (4) gifts, grants, and donations received for the
- 14 fund.
- 15 SECTION 2. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be
- 16 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 7, 2023.
- 17 The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the
- 18 proposition: "The constitutional amendment providing for the
- 19 creation of the centennial parks conservation fund to be
- 20 administered by the Parks and Wildlife Department and used for the
- 21 creation and improvement of state and local parks and the
- 22 conservation of land, water, and soil in this state."