

By: Paxton

S.J.R. No. 41

A JOINT RESOLUTION

proposing a constitutional amendment lowering the maximum allowable amount of money in the economic stabilization fund and dedicating certain general revenue to reducing school district maintenance and operations ad valorem taxes.

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

SECTION 1. Section 49-g, Article III, Texas Constitution, is amended by amending Subsections (g) and (h) and adding Subsections (g-1) and (g-2) to read as follows:

(g) During each fiscal biennium, the amount in the economic stabilization fund may not exceed an amount equal to seven ~~10~~ percent of the total amount, excluding investment income, interest income, and amounts borrowed from special funds, deposited in general revenue during the preceding biennium.

(g-1) When the comptroller of public accounts acts to prevent the amount in the economic stabilization fund from exceeding the limit in effect for a biennium under Subsection (g) of this section by reducing an amount transferred to the fund from general revenue as provided by Subsection (b) or (c) of this section or by crediting to general revenue interest that is due to the fund as provided by Subsection (i) of this section, the comptroller shall transfer to the credit of ad valorem tax relief an amount of general revenue equal to the amount by which the balance of general revenue is increased by the reduction of the transfer from general

1 revenue or the crediting of interest to general revenue.

2 (g-2) Money transferred to the credit of ad valorem tax
3 relief under Subsection (g-1) of this section may be appropriated
4 only for the purpose of reducing school district maintenance and
5 operations ad valorem taxes as provided by general law.

6 (h) In preparing an estimate of anticipated revenues for a
7 succeeding biennium as required by Section 49a, Article III,
8 [~~Section 49a~~], of this constitution, the comptroller shall estimate
9 the amount of the transfers that will be made under Subsections (b),
10 (d), [~~and~~] (e), and (g-1) of this section. The comptroller shall
11 deduct that amount from the estimate of anticipated revenues as if
12 the transfers were made on August 31 of that fiscal year.

13 SECTION 2. The following temporary provision is added to
14 the Texas Constitution:

15 TEMPORARY PROVISION. (a) This temporary provision applies
16 to the constitutional amendment proposed by the 88th Legislature,
17 Regular Session, 2023, lowering the maximum allowable amount of
18 money in the economic stabilization fund and dedicating certain
19 general revenue to reducing school district maintenance and
20 operations ad valorem taxes.

21 (b) The amendments to Section 49-g, Article III, of this
22 constitution take effect January 1, 2024.

23 (c) This temporary provision expires January 1, 2025.

24 SECTION 3. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be
25 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 7, 2023.
26 The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the
27 proposition: "The constitutional amendment lowering the maximum

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1 allowable amount of money in the economic stabilization fund and
2 dedicating certain general revenue to reducing school district
3 maintenance and operations ad valorem taxes."