

By: Toth

H.J.R. No. 9

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 proposing a constitutional amendment concerning the limitation on
2 the rate of growth in state and local appropriations with the return
3 of over-collected taxpayer money by reducing taxes.

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

5 SECTION 1. Article VIII, Texas Constitution, is amended by
6 adding Section 22A to read as follows:

7 Sec. 22. (a) For purposes of this section, "all funds
8 appropriations" means appropriations from:

9 (1) the general revenue fund in the state or local treasury;

10 (2) a dedicated account in the general revenue fund in the
11 state or local treasury;

12 (3) a general revenue-related fund in the state treasury as
13 identified in the biennial statement required of the comptroller
14 under Section 49a, Article III, Texas Constitution; and

15 (4) the other state funds, other local funds, and federal
16 funds in the state or local treasury.

17 (a) In each state fiscal biennium, the rate of growth of
18 appropriations from all revenue sources, and each local fiscal year
19 may not exceed the average taxpayer's ability to pay for the cost of
20 funding government.

21 (b) The Legislative Budget Board shall approve the
22 calculated rate using the available data and adopt the applicable
23 limit prior to the commencement of each regular state legislative
24 session and each local government shall use this determined rate.

1 (c) The state legislature or local entity may exceed the
2 limit imposed by this section only if:

3 1. Three-fourths of the members of each house of the
4 state legislature for the state budget and three-fourths of the
5 members of each local entity approve a resolution specifying the
6 amount of appropriations authorized above the limit and identifying
7 the nature of the emergency.

8 (d) Any over-collected taxpayer money will be returned to
9 them by reducing tax rates as determined by the state for the state
10 budget or local entity for the local entity's budget.

11 SECTION 2. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be
12 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 4, 2025.
13 The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the
14 proposition: "The constitutional amendment concerning the
15 limitation on the rate of growth in state and local appropriations,
16 and any over-collected taxpayer money will be returned by lowering
17 taxes."

18 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect on the date on which the
19 constitutional amendment proposed by the 89th Legislature, Regular
20 Session, 2025, authorizing an appropriations limitation on state
21 and local governments in Texas. If that amendment is not approved
22 by the voters, this Act has no effect.