By:  Geren, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Perry, et al.) H.J.R. No. 2

(In the Senate - Received from the House April 29, 2025; May 5, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Finance; May 7, 2025, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 15, Nays 0; May 7, 2025, sent to printer.)

COMMITTEE VOTE

                      Yea Nay Absent  PNV

Huffman                X

Hinojosa of Hidalgo   X

Alvarado               X

Bettencourt            X

Campbell               X

Creighton              X

Flores                 X

Hall                  X

Kolkhorst              X

Nichols                 X

Paxton                 X

Perry                  X

Schwertner             X

West                   X

Zaffirini              X

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

proposing a constitutional amendment prohibiting the legislature from imposing death taxes applicable to a decedent's property or the transfer of an estate, inheritance, legacy, succession, or gift.

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

SECTION 1.  Article VIII, Texas Constitution, is amended by adding Section 26 to read as follows:

Sec. 26.  (a)  Except as provided by Subsection (b) of this section, the legislature may not:

(1)  impose a state tax on the property of a deceased individual's estate because of the death of the individual, including an estate, inheritance, or death tax;

(2)  impose a state tax on the transfer of an estate, inheritance, legacy, succession, or gift from an individual, family, estate, or trust to another individual, family, estate, or trust, including a tax on a generation-skipping transfer, if the tax was not in effect on January 1, 2025; or

(3)  increase the rate or expand the applicability of a state tax described by Subdivision (2) of this subsection that was in effect on January 1, 2025, beyond the rate or applicability of the tax that was in effect on that date.

(b)  This section does not prohibit the imposition or change in the rate or applicability of:

(1)  a tax described by Section 29(b) of this article;

(2)  a tax applicable to the transfer of a motor vehicle by gift; or

(3)  an ad valorem tax on property.

SECTION 2.  This proposed constitutional amendment shall be submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 4, 2025. The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the proposition: "The constitutional amendment to prohibit the legislature from imposing death taxes applicable to a decedent's property or the transfer of an estate, inheritance, legacy, succession, or gift."

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