By:  Huffman, Bettencourt, Kolkhorst S.J.R. No. 1

(In the Senate - Filed February 6, 2025; February 7, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Criminal Justice; February 13, 2025, reported adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 6, Nays 0; February 13, 2025, sent to printer.)

COMMITTEE VOTE

               Yea Nay Absent  PNV

Flores          X

Parker          X

Hagenbuch       X

Hinojosa of Hidalgo  X

Huffman         X

King            X

Miles                     X

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.J.R. No. 1 By:  Huffman

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

proposing a constitutional amendment requiring the denial of bail for an illegal alien charged with an offense punishable as a felony.

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

SECTION 1.  This joint resolution shall be known as Jocelyn's Law.

SECTION 2.  Article I, Texas Constitution, is amended by adding Section 11e to read as follows:

Sec. 11e.  (a) In this section, "illegal alien" means a person who:

(1)  entered the United States without inspection or at any time or place other than as designated by the United States attorney general; or

(2)  was admitted as a nonimmigrant and, before the date of the commission of the offense, had failed to maintain the nonimmigrant status under which the alien was admitted or to which the status was changed under applicable federal immigration law, or to comply with the conditions of the person's status.

(b)  An illegal alien who is accused of committing an offense punishable as a felony shall be denied bail pending trial if a judge or magistrate determines after a hearing that probable cause exists to believe that the person engaged in the conduct constituting the offense.

SECTION 3.  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 requiring the denial of bail for an illegal alien charged with an offense punishable as a felony."

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