

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COMPILATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Submitted to the Committee on Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence  
For SJR 27

Compiled on: Monday, May 12, 2025 9:57 AM

Note: Comments received by the committee reflect only the view of the individual(s) submitting the comment, who retain sole responsibility for the content of the comment. Neither the committee nor the Texas House of Representatives takes a position on the views expressed in any comment. The committee compiles the comments received for informational purposes only and does not exercise any editorial control over comments.

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Hearing Date: May 12, 2025 9:00 AM

John van Compernelle  
Self  
Mineola, TX

It is imperative that this amendment proposal be put to the voters in November. This change in the SCJC is vitally important to reduce denial of due process and other abuses in the Texas court system. The new composition of the Commission will be less inclined to protect judges and lawyers at the expense of plaintiffs and defendants.

Julie Jakubson  
Self  
Montgomery, TX

I expect a vote in favor of SJR27 bill and we must stop out of control judges.

Cyndie Phillips  
Self/retired  
Magnolia, TX

I am in favor of SJR 27. Please vote aye for this constitutional amendment.  
Thank you.

Holland Jones  
Self  
Garland, TX

Yes please give us judges that cares I have the problem with Travis county judges and not doing their job Jon wisser and James I arth

Susan Chamberlain  
Self - On-site storage manager  
Marshall, TX

I am in Favor for SJR27

Rich Robins, J.D.  
TexasBarSunset.com  
Houston, TX

Of likely interest, the Texas Sunset Commission's next review of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct (SCJC) begins around October of 2027. See:

<https://www.sunset.texas.gov/reviews-and-reports/agencies/state-commission-judicial-conduct>

When the time comes, it could be worth politely reaching out to the busy Sunset Commission's assigned staffers. They might need help accessing information that could assist with their analyses and reform recommendations regarding the SCJC.

Meanwhile, it is encouraging that Senator Joan Huffman's proposed constitutional amendment regarding the SCJC purports to reduce its quantity of SCJC evaluating members who have (still compulsory) membership in the Texas Bar. After all, mandatory bar affiliation in Texas unduly intimidates lawyers. It renders many of them unwilling to evaluate candidly and critically the judges & justices who get paid so much to handle society's legal affairs AND the Texas Bar's ability to apply its vague ethics rules however most enriches Bar bureaucrats. Can you believe these documented revelations?

<http://www.TexasBarSunset.com/2025>

Consequently, the SCJC could seemingly benefit by having fewer members who must pay omage to that Bar and to its attorney discipline-wielding allies. Laypersons lack such vulnerabilities.

Most Texans cannot afford adequate legal services. They are so costly in considerable part because the Texas Bar still gets to seduce Texas' judiciary into ruling against practically any attorney whom the Texas Bar seeks to intimidate or cancel. That Bar can consequently get away with (among other things) imposing additional (unapproved) dues increases on the Bar membership. Who is reckless enough to try to resist such inflationary parasitism? Have you heard how maliciously the Texas Bar retaliated for the disclosure, to the Sunset Commission, of Bar bureaucrats' embezzlement scandals such as these?

<http://www.TexasBarSunset.com/embezzling>.

Texas Bar members consequently have to fear that that Bar can do whatever it likes with its enforcement actions against them. That Bar is armed with unconstitutionally vague purported ethics rules. It also enjoys judicial complicity with bar enforcement actions. Judiciary members need from that Bar free publicity, favorable recommendations, referrals, polling and other favors, after all.

As a result, the risks involved for lawyers regarding their potentially taking on new, unproven clientele are presently too much for such attorneys. All of Texas consequently suffers from the resulting diminished level of justice & rule of law, as many folks can't get affordable access to lawyers. We have seen south of our national border what life is like where the rule of law is not as strong as it could otherwise be. Texas deserves better than such economic and other malaise, doesn't it? So thanks for this proposed bill.

Rich Robins J.D.  
Volunteer editor: TexasBarSunset.com

Robert Davis

Myself

N Richlnd Hls, TX

Vote YES on SJR 27: Holding Judges Accountable

SJR 27 ensures that judges in Texas are held to the highest standards of ethics and integrity. By reforming the State Commission on Judicial Conduct (SCJC), this amendment improves the oversight of judges and gives both the Commission and the Texas Supreme Court greater authority to investigate and discipline judicial misconduct.

Voting YES on SJR 27 means:

Stronger accountability for judges who abuse their power.

Improved public trust in the court system.

Clearer authority for taking disciplinary action when needed.

A modern, transparent process for judicial oversight.

This amendment helps protect the fairness and integrity of Texas courts. That's why a YES vote on SJR 27 is a vote for justice, responsibility, and public trust.

Clare Galipeau

Self

Tyler, TX

Yes on this

Celeste Van Alstyne-Spitz

Self, retired

TYLER, TX

I am in favor of this Bill.

Jose Portalatin  
Advanced Texas Advocate Inc  
Burleson, TX

I am writing to express my strong support for SJR 27, the proposed constitutional amendment by Senator Huffman. This amendment is a significant step forward in enhancing the integrity and accountability of our judicial system.

The judiciary is a cornerstone of our democracy, tasked with upholding the rule of law and ensuring justice for all. However, like any institution, it is not immune to lapses in judgment or misconduct. SJR 27 addresses this by refining the membership and authority of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct and empowering the Texas Supreme Court to more effectively sanction judges and justices for judicial misconduct.

This amendment will strengthen public trust in our judicial system by enhancing oversight capabilities and ensuring transparency and accountability. It provides a comprehensive mechanism for addressing misconduct, deterring potential issues, and reinforcing the integrity of our judiciary.

Moreover, SJR 27 promotes fairness and equality by holding all members of the judiciary to the same rigorous standards, regardless of their position or tenure. This equality under the law is essential for maintaining public confidence in our legal system.

I believe that supporting SJR 27 is a vital step towards ensuring that our judiciary remains a pillar of integrity and fairness. Let us come together to strengthen our judicial system for the benefit of all Texans.

Thank you for considering my perspective on this important issue.

Best regards,

Jose Portalatin

James Morales  
Self  
New Braunfels, TX

I SUPPORT THIS BILL.

I support the proposed change in SCJC membership.

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Hearing Date: May 8, 2025 8:00 AM

Brooks McKenzie, Dr.

Self

Arlington, TX

Testifying FOR SJR27:

This is a great start to reclaiming any modicum of faith in the Texas Judiciary and the State's ability and willingness to address the well documented and very serious issues we have across the state. Texas has failed to adequately supervise it's judges for many years, the Sunset Committee can't even evaluate the SCJC, we have an unconstitutional Court created by SCOTX over the SCJC, and a sitting Chief Justice of SCOTX who I believe wrote the opinion many years ago to maintain the secrecy that has destroyed our courts, and any public faith that was remaining.

I have dedicated the remainder of my life to painfully exposing the overt corruption across Texas Courts (and I have gotten very good at it). This change is not only brilliant and long overdue, but it must happen. Otherwise, we are going to see the greatest revolt against the courts anyone can imagine. With what is about to happen on the federal level, Texas will not have a choice very soon. Let's lead the way, not have a federal takeover like they did our prisons in the 90s, and like they very well will do with our Juvenile Justice and CPS systems.

It is far past time, and it will happen one way or another, SJR27 shows you are aware, and willing. I SUPPORT SJR27.

Robert Davis

self

North Richland hills, TX

I am writing to express my strong support for Senate Joint Resolution 27, which proposes a constitutional amendment to improve the structure and authority of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct (SCJC).

SJR 27 represents an important step toward greater accountability and transparency in our judiciary. By expanding the Commission's membership and clarifying its disciplinary powers including the ability to suspend judges under investigation or indictment this resolution enhances public trust in our legal system while safeguarding judicial integrity.

I believe that Texans deserve a judicial oversight body that reflects a balance of experience and public representation, and SJR 27 delivers on that principle. I respectfully urge you to support this resolution and help bring it before the voters.

Thank you for your time and for your commitment to strengthening the institutions that serve our great state.

Victoria Hernandez

Self

Temple, TX

Honorable Members of the Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence Committee,

My name is, Victoria Hernandez, I am here on behalf of myself, submitting yet another testimony on this bill as a Texas parent and advocate for judicial accountability, submitting this testimony in steadfast support of Senate Joint Resolution 27 (SJR 27), a proposed constitutional amendment to strengthen oversight of Texas judges and restore integrity to our judicial system. I respectfully urge this Committee to vote SJR 27 out of committee, following the full Senate's approval, to place this vital reform before Texas voters. The Texas Supreme Court's ruling in Stary v. Ethridge (No. 23-0067, May 2, 2025) exposed the trial and appellate courts' egregious disregard for due process and evidentiary standards, issuing a lifetime protective order without clear and convincing evidence. This judicial misconduct, enabled by the State Commission on Judicial Conduct's (SCJC) chronic failure to hold judges accountable, has devastated families in family law cases for decades. SJR 27 is a priority to end this lawlessness, protect Texas children and parents, and rebuild trust in our courts. This case is one in many millions that merely reflects on the consistent inaction in our judiciary that is destroying Texas parents and families. It is time for change.

Thank you for your time to hear my testimony today may my voice stand for all children and parents being continuously silenced.

Erika Lenk-Hatfield, Mrs

Self

Rockwall, TX

As a proud Texan, I care deeply about fairness and honesty—especially in our courts. Judges have a lot of power, and it's important that someone is making sure they use that power the right way.

That's why I support Senate Joint Resolution 27. It gives the State Commission on Judicial Conduct more tools to hold judges accountable when they step out of line. It also adds more regular people to the commission, not just lawyers and judges, so it reflects the voice of everyday Texans like me.

I believe in doing the right thing—even when no one is watching—and I think judges should be held to that same standard. This resolution helps protect trust in our justice system, and that matters to me, my family, and my community.

Please support SJR 27 and give Texans more confidence that justice is being served fairly.

Gregory Taylor

Self

Texarkana, TX

I support this bill. Our form of government is based upon checks and balances. Judges should not be immune.

Patrick Tuter

self

Garland, TX

I am in support of SJR27. We need more judicial accountability. Any language that can strengthen the bill, force oversight and "shall" issue sanctions or removal from bench needs to be included. Judges are ignoring the Constitution every day in family courts.

Heather Briery

Self/florist

Palestine, TX

Judges should be held accountable for misconduct and not continue to be slapped on the wrist for their unethical behavior if such is the case. They hold the life and freedom of people in their hands and should always be held accountable.

Ken Sorley

MARINELAND BOATING CENTER

Robinson, TX

**THE MISSUSE AND PROFITERING BY TRAIL LAWYERS IS SINGLE BIGGEST DRAIN ON THE TEXAS ECONOMY AND THE JUDGES THAT PADDER TO THESES LAWYERS THRU CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS AND INSIDE BUSINESS DEALS!**

Ann Morris

Myself

Lago Vista, TX

Please pass SJR 27

Conghua Yan, Mr.

Self

Southlake, TX

I support this bill. The so-called judicial independence will lead to judicial tyranny if judges are not adequately held accountable. As Montesquieu observed, judges shall have “no influence over either the sword or the purse; no direction either of the strength or of the wealth of the society; and can take no active resolution whatever.” However, today’s courts—especially courts of equity, family courts, and probate courts—are using their court-issued orders as a sword to prey upon the public purse (the wealth of society), in collusion with attorneys who campaigned to help these judges wield such power. See also *Guffey v. Duff*, 330 F. Supp. 3d 66, 75 (D.D.C. 2018) (citing *Williams-Yulee v. Fla. Bar*, 575 U.S. 433 (2015)).

Under Founders’ philosophy, the judiciary was meant to be a neutral reviewer, separate from the sword (executer) or the purse (treasurer). However, when a member of SBTX in state family courts arbitrarily influences the distribution of ERISA purse and redirects the life-saving wealth of society to other members while wielding its own sword (temporary orders), it becomes the most dangerous form of tyranny. See *The Federalist No. 78* (Alexander Hamilton). Also see *Brutus No. 15* (Mar. 20, 1788). The Framers foresaw the danger of judicial authority being influenced by financial interests. To counter this threat, only judicial actors—no other government officials—were granted life tenure and protected compensation under Article III, Section 1, a safeguard that does not exist in state courts.

Under the Texas judicial framework, both the presiding judge and counsel are practicing lawyers, and local lawyers are the primary source of campaign funds for elected judges. Meanwhile, Texas family law has removed the safety valve (appellate mechanism) for reviewing predatory temporary orders, which extract money from family court litigants' funds to enrich counsel or other parties. The original constitutional insulation between judging and personal interest is breached, yet the absolute authority remains. It is all because the successor legislators forgot the Founders’ original concern- to keep the judicial power away from financial temptation at all cost.

I will record all of my prior litigation here to be preserved in Texas legislative history, so that future generations will remember what I have done for this country:

Court of Criminal Appeals: WR-96,456-02

Texas Supreme Court: 24-0410; 24-0789; 25-0375

U.S. Supreme Court: 24-554; 24-1070

U.S. Fifth Circuit: 24-10543; 24-10288

It all began in the 325th District Court, Tarrant County Family Court (Cause No. 325-707596-21), involving:

Judges: Cynthia Terry; Judith Wells, Lori DeAngelis

Court Coordinator: Lisa Grimaldi

Court Reporter: Kirk Moss

Attorneys: Leslie Barrows; William Pigg; Erika Patino; Cody Martin

My comment make on this bill will be archived in the Texas Law Library, ensuring that my remarks become part of its archived legislative history.

Matthew Thompson

Self

MONT BELVIEU, TX

I am physically handicapped. A state district judge used the Bait & Switch tactic, and didn't record the "Bait hearing." I complained, and the SCJC didn't even read the complaint.

Lisa Broomfield  
Self, Landman  
Troup, TX

Statement of Support for Texas Senate Joint Resolution 27:

Texans deserve a judiciary that is fair, ethical, and accountable to the people it serves. Texas Senate Joint Resolution 27 strengthens oversight of judicial conduct, ensuring both the State Commission on Judicial Conduct and the Texas Supreme Court have the necessary authority to uphold integrity in our courts.

My family has personally experienced the devastating impact of a compromised judiciary. Due to unethical acts by the Panola County Court at Law Judge, Rick McPherson. Although he eventually recused himself from our case, the damage had been done. The result? A four-year-old that started self-harming when faced with forced visits, counseling expenses for a traumatized child, additional and ongoing legal expenses, including attorney's fees and expert fees, compounding the injustice.

Texans deserve better. Judicial accountability is not optional—it is a fundamental right. This amendment reflects the will of the people and affirms that our legal system must serve Texans, not itself. The time for action is now. Lawmakers must pass this resolution to help restore trust, ensure transparency, and uphold fairness in our courts. Please demonstrate that you stand with us in the pursuit of justice for all, and pass this meaningful amendment.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lisa Broomfield

Steven Broomfield  
Self, ROW agent  
Troup, TX

I urge you to vote for this amendment. Transparency and Accountability are good for Texas. Citizen participation ensures fairness. Please vote yes

Lance Phillips  
Self  
Tyler, TX

We've got too many corrupt judges

Travis Howell  
Self  
Gary, TX

Judicial misconduct is becoming more and more a problem. Judges rather than following and honoring the constitution are judging with clear partisan bias which is antithetical to the judicial branch of government. Judges who are not blind in terms of immutable characteristics, political affiliation, religious affiliation, public opinions, need accountability for their lack of objectivity. Judicial misconduct should have swift and straightforward accountability.

CRAIG LICCIARDI

Self / Transportation Account Executive  
Flint, TX

This Joint Resolution for a constitutional amendment is an idea whose time is definitely here. I have read this in its entirety and I wholeheartedly support it. Please pass SJR 27 out of the House State Affairs committee and get it to the floor of the House, asap, unmolested. It needs to be on the November ballot for the people of Texas to make the decision. Thank you--

Barbara Schneider

Self

Carthage, TX

Panola County is rife with judicial, district attorney and attorney misconduct and WE the citizens of Panola County demand accountability!

John Doe

SELF

Plano, TX

Honorable Members:

As a Collin County citizen, I am fighting since 2010 to recover my home, stolen through property fraud, and faced systemic judicial injustice and bias. I strongly support Senate Joint Resolution 27 (SJR 27) to reform the State Commission on Judicial Conduct (SCJC). My 15-year ordeal—marked by ignored evidence, intimidation, and fear of retribution—shows why we need a citizen-driven SCJC.

From 2010 to 2018, judge Greg Bertrand and his son Deac Caufield, others in BDFTE a foreclosure mill, used 18+ forged deeds/documents to steal my home to sell to Zaidi brothers who sold in 2020 to a title company manager. Bertrand's 16-year pattern of enabling bank frauds fueled this theft until I exposed him. I filed my lawsuits with expert reports, private investigator reports which confirmed the crimes, fraud but judges ignored them as well as case laws supporting my claims. In 2011, a judge permitted an illegal foreclosure by Chase which I got it reversed with the help of Sen. Cornyn. In 2012, another allowed a fraudulent sale reversal with forged documents, neglecting oversight.

In 2015/2016, a federal judge misrepresented/lied/in in-camera-evidence, showing bias and forcing bankruptcy. In 2016, a bankruptcy judge noted fraud but denied relief, ignoring laws. In 2018-2019, eviction judges ignored case laws, barred my questions, threatened arrest for courtroom responses, and sanctioned me, instilling fear. In 2024, a district judge dismissed proof my loans weren't Chase-owned, reflecting bias, and on appeal dismissed due to technicality but more than half of CA5 had possible recusals but did not do despite my motion. In 2021, a judge neglected/violated the law by not giving my criminal complaint to grand jury or it appears so as there is no grand jury report on my case submission. This is obstruction of justice and still he continuing as Visiting Judge. And all the federal judges assigned to my case ignored the well-established case laws and abused their power to dismiss my cases despite mountain evidence, securitization report by Bill Paatalo, my own 3 Private Investigators proved the crime/fraud against me and 4 GOOD Cops confirming the crimes against me/my family. Despite all these, I/My family still facing injustice.

Fear of judicial retribution and distrust in government stopped me from contacting the SCJC. Police, DAs, and courts protected insiders, and my 2023 Senate testimony/comment exposing abuses went ignored, proving the SCJC may not be worth complaining. SJR 27's citizen members will end this, ensuring victims are heard. Stronger SCJC powers to discipline biased judges are vital—my evidence was dismissed, and intimidation silenced me. I urge transparent complaint updates and ethics training to prevent injustice. SJR 27 can restore trust. No immigrant family or any family should face biased judicial abuse like this. Hope you all read my attachments too which will give entire picture, magnitude of this injustice. Thank You All.