House Joint Resolution No.____  By Frank W. Burmeister.

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House Joint Resolution

To amend Section 2 of Article VI, of the Constitution of the State of Texas, so as to authorize females to vote, and providing that the Governor shall submit the same to the qualified voters of Texas at the general election of State officers in November 1914, and appropriating Five Thousand ($5,000.00) dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the expenses of carrying out the provisions of this resolution.

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

Section 1. That Section 2, of Article VI of the Constitution of the State of Texas, be so amended as to hereafter read as follows:

ARTICLE VI.

Section 2. Every person subject to none of the foregoing disqualifications, who shall have attained the age of twenty-one years of age, and who shall be a citizen of the United States, and who shall have resided in this State one year next preceding an election, and the last six months within the district or county in which he or she offers to vote, shall be deemed a qualified voter; and every person of foreign birth subject to none of the foregoing disqualifications, who not less than six months before any election, at which he or she offers to vote, shall have declared his or her intention to become a citizen of the United States, in accordance with the Federal Naturalization laws, and shall have resided in this State one year next preceding such election, and the last six months in the county in which he or she offers to vote, shall also be deemed a qualified elector; and all electors shall vote in the Election
#2.
Precinct of their residence; provided, that electors living in any un-organized County may vote at any Election Precinct in the County to which such County is attached for judicial purposes.

Section 2. The Governor of the State is hereby directed to issue the necessary proclamation for the submission of this amendment to the qualified voters of the State of Texas, at the General Election of State Officers in November 1914. At which election all voters favoring this amendment shall have written or printed on their ballot:

"For the amendment of Section 2, Article VI, of the Constitution, providing for female suffrage."

And voters opposed to such amendment shall have written or printed on their ballots:

"Against the amendment of Section 2, Article VI of the Constitution, providing for female suffrage."

Section 3. The sum of Five Thousand ($5,000.00) dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated to pay the expenses of carrying out the provisions of this Resolution.
Hon. CHESTER TERRELL,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir:—Your Committee on Constitutional amendments to whom was referred House Joint Resolution No. 9

Have had the same under consideration, and I am instructed to report it back to the House with the recommendation that it do pass, and that Mr. Burmeister has been appointed to make a full report on same.

Chairman.
FULL REPORT

Committee Room,
Austin, Texas, Jan. 31, 1913.

Hon. Chester H. Terrell,
Speaker House of Representatives.

Sir:

Having been appointed by Your Committee on Constitutional Amendments to make full report on House Joint Resolution No. 9, being a Joint Resolution to amend section 2 of Article VI, of the Constitution of the State of Texas, so as to authorize females to vote, and providing that the Governor shall submit the same to the qualified voters in November 1914, and appropriating Five Thousand ($5,000.00) dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the expenses of carrying out the provisions of this resolution, beg leave to report as follows:

This Joint Resolution was returned to the House with the recommendation that it do pass, with the following amendment:

Strike out all of the following; after the word "voter" in line 7 of section 2 down to the word "and" in line 16 of section 2: "and every person of foreign birth subject to none of the foregoing disqualifications, who not less than six months before any election, at which he or she offers to vote, shall have declared his or her intention to become a citizen of the United States, in accordance with the Federal Naturalization laws, and shall have resided in this State one year next preceding such election, and the last six months in the county in which he or she offers to vote, shall also be deemed a qualified elector"

This amendment was offered in view of the fact that Joint Resolution No. 4, by Allison, which provides that only full citizens be entitled to vote, has been reported favorably by the Committee, and that in case said Joint Resolution should be adopted, this Joint Resolution should not interfere with Joint Resolution No. 4. The Joint Resolution, if
so adopted, is women's suffrage, pure and simple, giving to every person over twenty-one years of age, not subject to the disqualifications contained in the Constitution, which will continue in force, the right to vote.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Frank H. Burneister
Austin, Texas, Feb. 1, 1913.

Hon. Chester H. Terrell,
Speaker of the House of Representatives:

Sir:

The undersigned being a minority of the Committee
on Constitutional Amendments, which Committee has had under
consideration House Joint Resolution No. 9, the majority of
which Committee has reported said Resolution with the recommend-
ation that it do pass, beg to submit the following minority
report:

The Resolution proposes to amend Section 2 of Article
6 of the Constitution of the State of Texas so as to authorize
and permit Woman Suffrage.

We recommend that the Resolution do not pass for
the following reasons:

1st. Texas is a Southern State and has always held
to the lofty ideals and high purposes which have animated the
leaders of Southern thought, Southern action, Southern achievement,
Southern civilization, Southern ambition and hope for more than
200 years. Her citizenship is largely composed of the descendants
of the men and women of Southern chivalry but those who are not so
descended were attracted to us and have cast their homes among us
and have become a part of the body politic because they admired
and approved the high ideals in both manhood and womanhood which
Southern men and women have consistently maintained. We regard as
the most sacred heritage of the South and that which is more re-
sponsible for our advancement and civilization than any other feature
of our social life the universal respect which men entertain for
women. We oppose the effort to reduce the standard of womanhood
and we deprecate the effort to dash from the high pedestal upon
which Southern manhood has placed them, the wives and daughters
of the South and especially of Texas. We do not recognize them
as our INFERIORS who are to be elevated to our level by being
clothed with the ballot but we recognize them as our SUPERIORS
whom we would not drag down to our level by involving them in the
doubtful domain of practical politics.
2nd. Be it said to the everlasting credit of the womanhood of Texas that there is no popular demand among them for this measure. We do not mean by this to cast any aspersions upon the good but misguided women who are advocating in our midst this new fad of Woman's Suffrage but we do felicitate the State upon the circumstance that the agitation and the demand is confined within narrow circles.

3rd. We do not wish to be understood as saying that the cause of Woman's Suffrage is debaseing to its advocates for we recognize that some of the thoughtful and good women of this State favor it but we do mean to say that they have not the full appreciation of the infinite superiority of women over men which we ascribe to them.

4th. As a necessary correlative to Woman's Suffrage is the performance of certain political duties in conducting the Government and among them is service upon juries. We contemplate with horror the hour when our wives and daughters may be called to serve on grand juries to listen to the loathsome things uncovered in their secret chambers, to serve on juries in the trial of criminal cases and there hear gruesome details of the abhorrent things which men know exist in the underworld, and we cannot contemplate without revulsion the thought of our wives and daughters serving upon juries in the trial of any character of cause when the juror sitting next may be a man whose habits render him venal and repulsive or maybe a buck negro.

5th. We are not unmindful of the progressiveness of modern society but we think it is a progressiveness that leads to lower rather than higher ideals. In the States and in the cities which do not erect the standards which have governed Southern womanhood for more than two centuries, we note that the mannish woman apes the man and in many unbecoming ways and among other reprehensible practices drinks and smokes. This, of necessity, lessens the chivalric regard for women which has always animated the Southern heart and yet we of the South who have visited the cities of the North are compelled to take note of its progress. In many of the
cafes of Northern cities women may be seen not only indulging the deadly cigarette but drinking freely and with that abandon which mothers and daughters of the Old South would not for one moment tolerate. Possibly it is well for women to feel not only the equal of men but independent of men but it cannot be well for men to lose the conviction that the superiority they have always ascribed to women has waned and is lost.

6th. If men and women are equalized in the political relation they will sooner or later get upon the same level in the moral and spiritual relation and knowing men as we do, we cannot escape the fear that the process of equalizing will be downward to man's level rather than upward to the high position which the womanhood of the South now occupies in the estimation and esteem of every true son of Dixie.

For these reasons we respectfully submit that the Resolution should not pass.

[Signatures]
H.J. Resolution No. 9

By Frank H. Burmeister.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

To amend Section 2 of Article VI, of the Constitution of the State of Texas, so as to authorize females to vote, and providing that the Governor shall submit the same to the qualified voters of Texas at the general election of State officers in November 1914, and appropriating Five Thousand ($5,000.00) dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the expenses of carrying out the provisions of this resolution.

[Handwritten note: Reported favorably with amendments]