

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTIONS

CREATION OF CERTAIN HOSPITAL DISTRICTS

S. J. R. No. 3

Proposing an amendment to Article IX of the Constitution of the State of Texas, by adding thereto a new section to be known as Section 5, to provide that the Legislature may authorize the creation of a Hospital District coextensive with the incorporated limits of the City of Amarillo, Texas; authorizing the County of Potter to render financial aid to and participate in the operation of such Hospital District; authorizing the Commissioners Court of said county to assess and levy taxes on property outside the incorporated limits of such city; further authorizing a countywide Hospital District for Wichita County, Texas, and authorizing the creation of two districts in Jefferson County; and further providing that any enabling Acts shall not be invalid because of their anticipatory character.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

Section 1. That Article IX of the Constitution of the State of Texas be, and the same is hereby amended by adding thereto another section to be designated as Section 5, which shall read as follows:

"Section 5. (a) The Legislature may by law authorize the creation of two hospital districts, one to be coextensive with and have the same boundaries as the incorporated City of Amarillo, as such boundaries now exist or as they may hereafter be lawfully extended, and the other to be coextensive with Wichita County.

"If such district or districts are created, they may be authorized to levy a tax not to exceed Seventy-five Cents (75¢) on the One Hundred Dollars ($100.00) valuation of taxable property within the district; provided, however, no tax may be levied until approved by a majority vote of the participating resident qualified property taxpaying voters who have duly rendered their property for taxation. The maximum rate of tax may be changed at subsequent elections so long as obligations are not impaired, and not to exceed the maximum limit of Seventy-five Cents (75¢) per One Hundred Dollars ($100.00) valuation, and no election shall be required by subsequent changes in the boundaries of the City of Amarillo.

"If such tax is authorized, no political subdivision or municipality within or having the same boundaries as the district may levy a tax for medical or hospital care for needy individuals, nor shall they maintain or erect hospital facilities, but the district shall by resolution assume all such responsibilities and shall assume all of the liabilities and obligations (including bonds and warrants) of such subdivisions or municipalities or both. The maximum tax rate submitted shall be sufficient to discharge such obligations, liabilities, and responsibilities, and to maintain and operate the hospital system, and the Legislature may authorize the district to issue tax bonds for the purpose of the purchase, construction, acquisition, repair or renovation of improvements and initially equipping the same, and such bonds shall be payable from said Seventy-five Cents (75¢) tax. The Legislature shall provide for transfer of title to properties to the district.
SENATE JOINT RESOLUTIONS

"(b) The Legislature may by law permit the County of Potter (in which the City of Amarillo is partially located) to render financial aid to that district by paying a part of the expenses of operating and maintaining the system and paying a part of the debts of the district (whether assumed or created by the district) and may authorize the levy of a tax not to exceed Ten Cents (10¢) per One Hundred Dollars ($100.00) valuation (in addition to other taxes permitted by this Constitution) upon all property within the county but without the City of Amarillo at the time such levy is made for such purposes. If such tax is authorized, the district shall by resolution assume the responsibilities, obligations, and liabilities of the county in the manner and to the extent hereinabove provided for political subdivisions having boundaries coextensive with the district, and the county shall not thereafter levy taxes (other than herein provided) for hospital purposes nor for providing hospital care for needy individuals of the county.

"(c) The Legislature may by law authorize the creation of a hospital district within Jefferson County, the boundaries of which shall include only the area comprising the Jefferson County Drainage District No. 7 and the Port Arthur Independent School District, as such boundaries existed on the first day of January, 1957, with the power to issue bonds for the sole purpose of purchasing a site for, and the construction and initial equipping of, a hospital system, and with the power to levy a tax of not to exceed Seventy-five Cents (75¢) on the One Hundred Dollars ($100.00) valuation of property therein for the purpose of paying the principal and interest on such bonds.

"The creation of such hospital district shall not be final until approved at an election by a majority of the resident property taxpaying voters voting at said election who have duly rendered their property for taxation upon the tax rolls of either said Drainage or said School District, nor shall such bonds be issued or such tax be levied until so approved by such voters.

"The district shall not have the power to levy any tax for maintenance or operation of the hospital or facilities, but shall contract with other political subdivisions of the state or private individuals, associations, or corporations for such purposes.

"If the district hereinabove authorized is finally created, no other hospital district may be created embracing any part of the territory within its boundaries, but the Legislature by law may authorize the creation of a hospital district incorporating therein the remainder of Jefferson County, having the powers and duties and with the limitations presently provided by Article IX, Section 4, of the Constitution of Texas, except that such district shall be confirmed at an election wherein the resident qualified property taxpaying voters who have duly rendered their property for taxation within such proposed district for taxation on the county rolls, shall be authorized to vote. A majority of those participating in the election voting in favor of the district shall be necessary for its confirmation and for bonds to be issued.

"(d) Should the Legislature enact enabling laws in anticipation of the adoption of this amendment, such Acts shall not be invalid because of their anticipatory character."

Sec. 2. The foregoing constitutional amendment shall be submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of this state at the general election to be held the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, 1958, at which election all ballots shall have printed thereon:

"FOR the constitutional amendment authorizing the Legislature to create a Hospital District coextensive with the incorporated limits of the City of Amarillo, Texas, and authorizing Potter County
PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

...to lend financial aid to and participate in the operation of said Hospital District, and further authorizing the Legislature to create a county-wide Hospital District in Wichita County, Texas, and Hospital Districts in Jefferson County, Texas.”

“AGAINST the constitutional amendment authorizing the Legislature to create a Hospital District coextensive with the incorporated limits of the City of Amarillo, Texas, and authorizing Potter County to lend financial aid to and participate in the operation of said Hospital District, and further authorizing the Legislature to create a county-wide Hospital District in Wichita County, Texas, and Hospital Districts in Jefferson County, Texas.”

Sec. 3. The Governor shall issue the necessary proclamation for said election and have the same published as required by the constitution and laws of this state.

Passed the Senate, March 4, 1957: Yeas 29, Nays 0; April 9, 1957, Senate refused to concur in House amendments and requested appointment of Conference Committee; April 16, 1957, House granted request of Senate; May 9, 1957, Senate adopted Conference Report: Yeas 28, Nays 0; passed the House, April 3, 1957, with amendments: Yeas 153, Nays 1; April 15, 1957, House granted request for appointment of Conference Committee; April 29, 1957, House adopted Conference Report: Yeas 127, Nays 0. Approved May 20, 1957.

FILED with the Secretary of State, May 21, 1957.

AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATIONS AND EXPENDITURES—DEVELOPMENT OF INFORMATION RESPECTING STATE RESOURCES

S. J. R. No. 4

Proposing an Amendment to Section 56 of Article XVI of the Constitution of the State of Texas, providing that the Legislature be authorized to appropriate money and establish the procedure necessary to expend such money for the purpose of developing information about the historical, natural, agricultural, industrial, educational, marketing, recreational and living resources of Texas, and for the purpose of informing persons and corporations of other states through advertising in periodicals having national circulation, and the dissemination of factual information about the advantages and economic resources offered by the State of Texas; providing that neither the name nor the picture of any living state official shall ever be used in any of said advertising, and providing that the Legislature may require that any sum of money appropriated hereunder shall be matched by an equal sum paid into the State Treasury from private sources before any of said money may be expended.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

Section 1. That Section 56 of Article XVI of the Constitution of Texas be amended to read as follows:

“Section 56. The Legislature of the State of Texas shall have the power to appropriate money and establish the procedure necessary to expend such money for the purpose of developing information about the historical, natural, agricultural, industrial, educational, marketing, recreational and living resources of Texas, and for the purpose of informing persons and corporations of other states through advertising in periodicals having national circulation, and the dissemination of factual information about the advantages and economic resources offered by the State of Texas; providing, however, that neither the name nor the picture of any