PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT—ASSISTANCE TO TOTALLY AND PERMANENTLY DISABLED PERSONS

S. J. R. No. 7

Proposing an Amendment to Section 51-b of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Texas, relating to assistance to needy persons totally and permanently physically or mentally disabled, renumbering said Section, and providing that the amount paid out of state funds for assistance payments to the totally and permanently disabled may never exceed Two Million, Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($2,500,000) per year.

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

Section 1. That Section 51-b of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Texas, relating to assistance to needy persons totally and permanently physically or mentally disabled be amended and renumbered so as to read as follows:

"Section 51-b-1. The Legislature shall have the power to provide by General Laws, under such limitations and restrictions as may be deemed by the Legislature expedient, for assistance to needy individuals, who are citizens of the United States, who shall have passed their eighteenth (18th) birthday but have not passed their sixty-fifth (65th) birthday, who are totally and permanently disabled by reason of a mental or physical handicap or a combination of physical and mental handicaps and not feasible for vocational rehabilitation, and who are residents of the State of Texas, who have resided in this state for at least one (1) year continuously immediately preceding the application and who have resided in the state for at least an additional five (5) years during the nine (9) years immediately preceding the application for assistance; and providing further, that no individual shall receive assistance under this program for the permanently and totally disabled during any period when he is receiving old age assistance, aid to the needy blind, or aid to dependent children, nor while he is residing permanently in any completely state-supported institution; and provided further, that not more than Twenty Dollars ($20) a month out of state funds may be paid to any individual recipient; and provided further, that the amount paid out of state funds to any individual may never exceed the amount paid to that individual out of federal funds; and provided further, that the amount paid out of state funds for assistance payments shall not exceed Two Million, Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($2,500,000) per year.

"The Legislature shall have the authority to accept from the Government of the United States such financial aid for individuals who are permanently and totally disabled as that Government may offer not inconsistent with the restrictions herein provided."

Sec. 2. The foregoing Constitutional Amendment shall be submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of this state at an election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, 1962, at which election all ballots shall have printed thereon the following:

"FOR the Constitutional Amendment to establish a ceiling of Two Million, Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($2,500,000) per year on the amount that may be paid out of state funds for assistance payments to the totally and permanently disabled."

"AGAINST the Constitutional Amendment to establish a ceiling of Two Million, Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($2,500,000) per year..."
on the amount that may be paid out of state funds for assistance payments to the totally and permanently disabled."

Sec. 3. The Governor of Texas shall issue the necessary Proclamation for the election and this Amendment shall be published in the manner and for the length of time as required by the Constitution and laws of this state.

Passed the Senate, May 9, 1961: Yeas 28, Nays 0; May 29, 1961, Senate refused to concur in House amendments and requested appointment of Conference Committee; May 29, 1961, House granted request of Senate; May 29, 1961, Senate adopted Conference Report: Yeas 30, Nays 0; passed the House, May 27, 1961, with amendments: Yeas 128, Nays 3; May 29, 1961, House granted request of Senate for appointment of Conference Committee; May 29, 1961, House adopted Conference Report: Yeas 130, Nays 0.

Filed without Governor's signature, June 17, 1961.

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT—ASSISTANCE TO NEEDY AGED, NEEDY BLIND AND NEEDY CHILDREN

S. J. R. No. 9

Proposing an amendment to Section 51a of Article 111 of the Constitution of the State of Texas to raise the limit on use of state funds for financial assistance of the needy aged, needy blind, and needy children from Forty-seven Million Dollars ($47,000,000) a year to Fifty-two Million Dollars ($52,000,000) a year; providing for the necessary election, form of ballot, proclamation, and publication.

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

Section 1. That Section 51a of Article 111 of the Constitution of the State of Texas be amended to read:

"Section 51a. Payment of Assistance to Needy Aged, Needy Blind and Needy Children

The Legislature shall have the power, by General Laws, to provide, subject to limitations and restrictions herein contained, and such other limitations, restrictions and regulations as may by the Legislature be deemed expedient for assistance to, and for the payment of assistance to:

"(1) Needy aged persons who are actual bona fide citizens of Texas, and who are over the age of sixty-five (65) years; provided that no such assistance shall be paid to any inmate of any state-supported institution, while such inmate, or to any person who shall not have actually resided in Texas for at least five (5) years during the nine (9) years immediately preceding the application for such assistance and continuously for one (1) year immediately preceding such application; provided that the maximum payment per month from state funds shall not be more than Twenty-five Dollars ($25) per person; and provided further, that no payment in excess of Twenty-one Dollars ($21) shall be paid out of state funds to an individual until and unless such additional amounts are matched by the Federal Government.

"(2) Needy blind persons who are actual bona fide citizens of Texas, and are over the age of twenty-one (21) years; provided that no such assistance shall be paid to any inmate of any state-supported institution, while such inmate, or to any person who shall not have actually resided in Texas at least five (5) years during the nine (9) years immediately preceding the application for such assistance and continuously for one (1) year immediately preceding such application; provided that the maximum payment per month from state funds shall not be more than Twenty-five Dollars ($25) per person; and provided further, that no payment in excess of Twenty-one Dollars ($21) shall be paid out of state funds to an individual until and unless such additional amounts are matched by the Federal Government."