

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

S.J.R. 13
By: Harris
Administration
1/25/1999
As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, Texas has the ability to make appropriations for statues, monuments, and paintings which are considered to have historical value. Films, videotapes, and audiotapes are not included as historical items which the legislature may procure. The legislature does not have the power to accept gifts or purchase historical items on behalf of the State of Texas.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.J.R. 13 requires the submission to the voters of a constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to make appropriations for preserving and perpetuating memorials and to accept gifts or purchase historical items on behalf of the state.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 39, Article XVI, Texas Constitution, to authorize the legislature to make appropriations for preserving the history of Texas by means of films, videotapes, and audiotapes, among others. Authorizes the legislature to accept gifts and contributions on behalf of the state.

SECTION 2. Requires this constitutional amendment to be submitted to the voters at an election held November 2, 1999. Sets forth required the language and format of the ballot.