

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
78R4037 MTB-F

S.J.R. 31
By: Wentworth
Infrastructure Development and Security
3/20/2003
As Filed

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Currently, the Texas Constitution dedicates certain revenues from motor vehicle registrations and sales taxes on motor fuels to the construction, maintenance, and policing of public roads. As proposed, S.J.R. 31 would amend the constitution to allow such funds to also be used to purchase rights-of-way for railroads and utilities, if such expenditures are deemed by the Texas Transportation Commission to be beneficial to the state highway system.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

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

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 7-a, Article VIII, Texas Constitution, to add that funds from motor vehicle registration fees and taxes on motor fuels may be used for the purpose of planning and acquiring rights-of-way for railroads and utilities, including certain infrastructure components, if the Texas Transportation Commission or its successor finds that the expenditure will benefit the state highway system.

SECTION 2. Requires the proposed constitutional amendment to be submitted to the voters at an election on November 4, 2003. Requires the ballot to be printed to permit voting for or against the proposition contained in specified text.