

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
79R3621 ATP-F

S.J.R. 12
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Intergovernmental Relations
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As Filed

AUTHOR'S/SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

Currently, there is no minimum educational or professional qualifications required to serve as the county treasurer of Fort Bend County. The treasurer has few duties other than the counting and receipting of monies and the certification of funds. The growth that Fort Bend County is experiencing generates ever-increasing amounts of money, which necessitates the management of increasingly complex financial matters that are best handled by professional accountants. A comprehensive reorganization of management and fiscal responsibilities among the existing appointed county officials has resulted in very little responsibility for the county treasurer. As proposed, S.J.R. 12 abolishes the elected office of county treasurer in Fort Bend County.

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 44, Article XVI, Texas Constitution, by adding Subsection (d), as follows:

(d) Provides that the office of county treasurer in Fort Bend County is abolished. Authorizes the Commissioners Court of Fort Bend County to employ or contract with a qualified person or designate another county officer to perform the functions that would have been performed by the county treasurer. Provides that the office of County Treasurer is only abolished if the majority voters of Fort Bend County favor such an action.

SECTION 2. Adds the following temporary provision to the Texas Constitution:

TEMPORARY PROVISION. Sets forth a temporary provision contingent on the passage of the proposed constitutional amendment. Expiration date, temporary provision: January 2, 2006.

SECTION 3. Requires this proposed constitutional amendment to be submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 8, 2005. Sets forth the required language for the ballot.