## Constitutional Amendment Election, November 2015

Posted At: August 7, 2015 3:29 PM | Posted By: TexasLRL

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On November 3, 2015, voters will have a chance to consider seven constitutional amendments proposed by the 84th Legislature. The proposed amendments cover a wide range of topics, including property taxes, transportation, state official residency requirements, and more.

For background and analysis of the ballot propositions, see the House Research Organization's *Constitutional Amendments Proposed for Nov. 2015 Ballot*, and the Texas Legislative Council's *Analyses of Proposed Constitutional Amendments*.

The Texas Constitution is one of the longest in the nation and it's still growing. The Constitution is changed through amendments, which are proposed by the Texas Legislature and accepted or rejected by the voters.

Since the current Texas Constitution was adopted in 1876, over 480 amendments have been accepted.

Constitutional Amendments Proposed for the November 3, 2015 ballot 84th SJR 1 Prop. 1The constitutional amendment increasing the amount of the R.S. residence homestead exemption from ad valorem taxation for public school purposes from \$15,000 to \$25,000, providing for a reduction of the limitation on the total amount of ad valorem taxes that may be imposed for those purposes on the homestead of an elderly or disabled person to reflect the increased exemption amount, authorizing the legislature to prohibit a political subdivision that has adopted an optional residence homestead exemption from ad valorem taxation from reducing the amount of or repealing the exemption, and prohibiting the enactment of a law that imposes a transfer tax on a transaction that conveys fee simple title to real property. 84th HJR 75 Prop. 2The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to R.S. provide for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of all or part of the market value of the residence homestead of the surviving spouse of a 100 percent or totally disabled veteran who died before the law authorizing a residence homestead exemption for such a veteran took effect. 84th SJR 52 Prop. 3The constitutional amendment repealing the requirement that R.S. state officers elected by voters statewide reside in the state capital. 84th HJR 73 Prop. 4The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to permit professional sports team charitable foundations to conduct R.S.

84th SJR 17 Prop. 5The constitutional amendment to authorize counties with a

population of 7,500 or less to perform private road construction

charitable raffles.

and maintenance.

R.S.

84th SJR 22 Prop. 6The constitutional amendment recognizing the right of the people R.S. to hunt, fish, and harvest wildlife subject to laws that promote wildlife conservation

84th SJR 5 Prop. 7The constitutional amendment dedicating certain sales and use tax revenue and motor vehicle sales, use, and rental tax revenue to the state highway fund to provide funding for nontolled roads and the reduction of certain transportation-related debt.