

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 proposing a constitutional amendment to require each house of the
2 legislature to take a record vote on final passage of a bill other
3 than certain local bills, of a resolution proposing or ratifying a
4 constitutional amendment, or of any other nonceremonial
5 resolution, and to publish the record vote on the Internet.

6 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

7 SECTION 1. Section 12, Article III, Texas Constitution, is
8 amended to read as follows:

9 Sec. 12. (a) Each house of the legislature [~~House~~] shall
10 keep a journal of its proceedings, and publish the same.

11 (b) A vote taken by either house must be by record vote with
12 the vote of each member entered in the journal of that house if the
13 vote is on final passage of a bill, a resolution proposing or
14 ratifying a constitutional amendment, or another resolution other
15 than a resolution of a purely ceremonial or honorary nature. Either
16 house by rule may provide for exceptions to this requirement for a
17 bill that applies only to one district or political subdivision of
18 this state. For purposes of this subsection, a vote on final
19 passage includes a vote on third reading in a house, or on second
20 reading if the house suspends the requirement for three readings,
21 on whether to concur in the other house's amendments, and on whether
22 to adopt a conference committee report.

23 (c) The [~~, and the~~] yeas and nays of the members of either
24 house [~~House~~] on any other question shall, at the desire of any

1 three members present, be entered on the journals.

2 (d) Each house shall make each record vote required under
3 Subsection (b) of this section, including the vote of each
4 individual member as recorded in the journal of that house,
5 available to the public for a reasonable period of not less than two
6 years through the Internet or a successor electronic communications
7 system accessible by the public. For a record vote on a bill or on a
8 resolution proposing or ratifying a constitutional amendment, the
9 record vote must be accessible to the public by reference to the
10 designated number of the bill or resolution and by reference to its
11 subject.

12 SECTION 2. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be
13 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 6, 2007.
14 The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the
15 proposition: "The constitutional amendment to require that a
16 record vote be taken by a house of the legislature on final passage
17 of any bill, other than certain local bills, of a resolution
18 proposing or ratifying a constitutional amendment, or of any other
19 nonceremonial resolution, and to provide for public access on the
20 Internet to those record votes."

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.J.R. No. 19 was passed by the House on April 17, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 142, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.J.R. No. 19 on May 25, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 142, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.J.R. No. 19 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 23, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

RECEIVED: _____

Date

Secretary of State