A JOINT RESOLUTION

proposing a constitutional amendment prescribing the purposes for which revenue from motor vehicle registration fees, certain motor vehicle-related taxes, and certain revenues received from the federal government may be used.

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

SECTION 1. Sections 7-a and 7-b, Article VIII, Texas Constitution, are amended to read as follows:

Sec. 7-a. Subject to legislative appropriation, allocation and direction, all net revenues remaining after payment of all refunds allowed by law and expenses of collection derived from motor vehicle registration fees, and all taxes, except gross production and ad valorem taxes, on motor fuels and lubricants used to propel motor vehicles over public roadways, shall be used for the sole purpose of acquiring rights-of-way [and] constructing and [and policing] such public roadways; and for the administration of such laws as may be prescribed by the Legislature pertaining to the supervision of traffic and safety on such roads; and for the payment of the principal and interest on county and road district bonds or warrants voted or issued prior to January 2, 1939, and declared eligible prior to January 2, 1945, for payment out of the County and Road District Highway Fund under existing law; provided, however, that one-fourth (1/4) of such net revenue from the motor fuel tax shall be allocated to the Available School Fund; and, provided, however, that the net revenue derived by counties...
from motor vehicle registration fees shall never be less than the maximum amounts allowed to be retained by each County and the percentage allowed to be retained by each County under the laws in effect on January 1, 1945. Nothing contained herein shall be construed as authorizing the pledging of the State's credit for any purpose.

Sec. 7-b. All revenues received from the federal government as reimbursement for state expenditures of funds that are themselves dedicated for acquiring rights-of-way and constructing and maintaining public roadways are also constitutionally dedicated and shall be used only for those purposes.

SECTION 2. The following temporary provision is added to the Texas Constitution:

TEMPORARY PROVISION. (a) This temporary provision applies to the constitutional amendment proposed by the 84th Legislature, Regular Session, 2015, prescribing the purposes for which revenue from motor vehicle registration fees, taxes on motor fuels and lubricants, and certain revenues received from the federal government may be used.

(b) The amendments to Sections 7-a and 7-b, Article VIII, of this constitution apply only in connection with a state fiscal biennium that begins on or after September 1, 2017.

(c) Beginning in the state fiscal year that begins on September 1, 2017, the legislature may not appropriate any revenue described by Section 7-a, Article VIII, of this constitution, and the state agency responsible for the construction and maintenance
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of state highways may not allocate any revenue described by that section that is appropriated to the state agency, for any purpose other than acquiring rights-of-way and constructing and maintaining public roadways.

(d) This temporary provision does not affect:

(1) the allocation of revenue to the available school fund or the allocation to counties of motor vehicle registration fees under Section 7-a, Article VIII, of this constitution; or

(2) the use of revenue described by Section 7-a or 7-b, Article VIII, of this constitution for a purpose specifically authorized by another provision of this constitution.

(e) This temporary provision expires September 2, 2017.

SECTION 3. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 3, 2015. The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the proposition: "The constitutional amendment prescribing the purposes for which revenue from motor vehicle registration fees, taxes on motor fuels and lubricants, and certain revenues received from the federal government may be used."