

1-1 By: Geren (Senate Sponsor - Hancock) H.C.R. No. 56
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 6, 2015;
 1-3 May 7, 2015, read first time and referred to Committee on
 1-4 Administration; May 13, 2015, reported favorably by the following
 1-5 vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0; May 13, 2015, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7 Hancock	X			
1-8 Uresti	X			
1-9 Campbell	X			
1-10 Eltife			X	
1-11 Huffines	X			
1-12 Schwertner			X	
1-13 West	X			

1-15 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-16 WHEREAS, The Texas Legislature for each of the last 16
 1-17 regular sessions has adopted a concurrent resolution authorizing
 1-18 the creation and appointment of joint interim legislative study
 1-19 committees by the lieutenant governor and speaker of the house of
 1-20 representatives; and

1-21 WHEREAS, Renewal of the prior authorizations to the presiding
 1-22 officers enables the legislature to address and study issues that
 1-23 remain unresolved on sine die adjournment or that emerge subsequent
 1-24 to that time; and

1-25 WHEREAS, It is also desirable to adopt by resolution various
 1-26 rules and policies regarding the operation of joint committees to
 1-27 supplement, and reconcile differences between, the senate and house
 1-28 rules of procedure; now, therefore, be it

1-29 RESOLVED, That the 84th Legislature of the State of Texas
 1-30 hereby authorize the lieutenant governor and speaker of the house
 1-31 of representatives to create by mutual agreement such joint
 1-32 committees as they consider necessary during the term of this
 1-33 legislature; and, be it further

1-34 RESOLVED, That each joint committee created pursuant to this
 1-35 resolution be composed of such combination of legislators, state
 1-36 officials, or citizen members as shall be determined mutually by
 1-37 the presiding officers of each house; and, be it further

1-38 RESOLVED, That on the request of the presiding officers, the
 1-39 governor may appoint members to a joint committee created pursuant
 1-40 to this resolution; and, be it further

1-41 RESOLVED, That the presiding officers issue for each
 1-42 committee so created a joint proclamation identifying the issue or
 1-43 issues to be studied and listing the committee membership or
 1-44 describing the committee composition and that the proclamation be
 1-45 filed with the secretary of the senate and the chief clerk of the
 1-46 house of representatives; and, be it further

1-47 RESOLVED, That the presiding officers designate jointly a
 1-48 chair, or designate alternatively two co-chairs, from among the
 1-49 committee membership; and, be it further

1-50 RESOLVED, That the chair or co-chairs, acting jointly and
 1-51 within four weeks of the proclamation, prepare and present to the
 1-52 presiding officers a proposal for budget and staffing; and, be it
 1-53 further

1-54 RESOLVED, That the chair or co-chairs be directed to use to
 1-55 the greatest extent possible the existing staff and administrative
 1-56 resources of committee members, standing committees, officers of
 1-57 the senate and house, and legislative service agencies; and, be it
 1-58 further

1-59 RESOLVED, That the presiding officers jointly review each
 1-60 budget and staffing proposal, adopt budgetary and staffing
 1-61 allocations, and determine the manner in which each joint committee

2-1 is to be funded; and, be it further

2-2 RESOLVED, That the joint committee chair, or the co-chairs
2-3 acting by mutual agreement, have authority to create and appoint
2-4 subcommittees or affiliated advisory panels and to designate
2-5 respective chairs for each, contingent on the advance approval of
2-6 the presiding officers for the creation and appointment of
2-7 subcommittees or advisory panels containing membership external to
2-8 the committee; and, be it further

2-9 RESOLVED, That each joint committee, and its subcommittees
2-10 and advisory panels, convene at the call of its chair or co-chairs;
2-11 provided that no joint committee, nor its subcommittees or advisory
2-12 panels, shall convene in a public hearing or other meeting for the
2-13 transaction of business unless public notice has been posted by its
2-14 chair or co-chairs at the locations specified by the senate and
2-15 house rules of procedure for posting of notice of standing
2-16 committee meetings at least five calendar days in advance of the
2-17 hearing or meeting; and, be it further

2-18 RESOLVED, That the preceding clause be construed, for
2-19 purposes of Section 551.046, Government Code, as a joint rule of the
2-20 senate and house of representatives controlling the posting of
2-21 notice for joint committees, and their subcommittees and advisory
2-22 panels, in lieu of required posting with the secretary of state;
2-23 and, be it further

2-24 RESOLVED, That each joint committee have authority to issue
2-25 process as provided in Sections 301.024-301.027, Government Code,
2-26 provided that any motion for the issuance of process must receive
2-27 the record vote of at least two-thirds of those present and voting,
2-28 a quorum being present; and, be it further

2-29 RESOLVED, That each joint committee be entitled to accept
2-30 grants and donations as provided by Sections 301.032(b) and (c),
2-31 Government Code, and that, on expiration of a joint committee, any
2-32 unexpended funds remaining from a grant or donation be transferred
2-33 in equal proportions to the accounts of the senate and house of
2-34 representatives unless otherwise provided by the grantor or donor;
2-35 and, be it further

2-36 RESOLVED, That each joint committee, except as modified by or
2-37 pursuant to this resolution, have all other powers and duties
2-38 provided to special committees by Subchapter B, Chapter 301,
2-39 Government Code, and the senate and house rules of procedure; and,
2-40 be it further

2-41 RESOLVED, That the operating accounts for each joint
2-42 committee created pursuant to this resolution and any grants and
2-43 donations that such committee may receive be administered by the
2-44 accounting and purchasing sections of the Texas Legislative
2-45 Council; and, be it further

2-46 RESOLVED, That the Texas Legislative Council accounting and
2-47 purchasing sections prepare, under the guidance of the presiding
2-48 officers, a manual of procedures for joint committees and other
2-49 entities created by the legislature for which funds are to be
2-50 administered by the Texas Legislative Council establishing
2-51 requirements as to printing needs, accounting procedures, ultimate
2-52 disposition of records, and other administrative and financial
2-53 matters; and, be it further

2-54 RESOLVED, That citizen members appointed by the lieutenant
2-55 governor or speaker of the house of representatives to joint
2-56 committees created pursuant to this resolution be reimbursed from
2-57 funds appropriated to the Texas Legislative Council for expenses of
2-58 transportation, meals, lodging, and incidentals for travel on
2-59 official committee business, at rates established by the joint
2-60 chairs of the Texas Legislative Council consistent with provisions
2-61 of the General Appropriations Act; and, be it further

2-62 RESOLVED, That citizen members appointed by the governor to
2-63 joint committees created pursuant to this resolution be reimbursed
2-64 from funds appropriated to the office of the governor for expenses
2-65 of travel on official committee business, at rates established by
2-66 the joint chairs of the Texas Legislative Council consistent with
2-67 provisions of the General Appropriations Act; and, be it further

2-68 RESOLVED, That citizen members appointed by the lieutenant
2-69 governor to senate select committees and citizen members appointed

3-1 by the speaker of the house of representatives to house committees
3-2 expanded or created under House Rule 4, Sections 24, 57, and 58,
3-3 when engaged in travel on official committee business, be
3-4 reimbursed for (1) transportation expenses at the same rates as
3-5 authorized for state employees by the General Appropriations Act,
3-6 and (2) actual expenses for meals, lodging, and incidentals,
3-7 subject to any maximum reimbursement limitations for meals and
3-8 lodging set by the Senate Administration Committee for senate
3-9 select committees and by the Committee on House Administration for
3-10 house select committees; and, be it further

3-11 RESOLVED, That the Texas Legislative Council be authorized to
3-12 reimburse the senate and house of representatives for expenses
3-13 incurred by members of the senate and house for transportation,
3-14 meals, lodging, and incidentals for travel on official business of
3-15 joint committees created pursuant to this resolution; and, be it
3-16 further

3-17 RESOLVED, That the final report of each joint committee be
3-18 approved by a majority of the voting membership of the committee;
3-19 dissenting voting members may attach statements to the final report
3-20 subject to any limitations specified in the rules adopted by the
3-21 committee; and, be it further

3-22 RESOLVED, That each joint committee created pursuant to this
3-23 resolution expire on January 10, 2017, or an earlier date specified
3-24 in the proclamation creating the committee.

3-25

* * * * *