

RESOLUTION

Voter Referendum to authorize a state Income Tax in Texas

A RESOLUTION TO: Have Legislature offer a voter referendum allowing voters to decide whether to authorize a state income tax.

WHEREAS, there was significant "shortfall" in the Texas State projected budget in 2003 and it is expected that a similar situation may occur in 2007 and in years to come, and

WHEREAS, numerous senior programs, disabled, retired teacher and teacher health insurance benefits along with many health and human services have been cut, eliminated or fall far below the national average in quality and funding as a result of budget constraints which result from inadequate and inconsistent State income from traditional regressive tax sources, and

WHEREAS, there is not enough State money to adequately fund Education reform in Texas or to bring the State up to the national average in educational investment without placing an additional regressive tax burden on low and middle income families. Tuition in Texas colleges and universities has been raised as much as 40%, thus many outstanding students cannot attend college because of the "shortfall" budget cuts; and

WHEREAS, progressive income tax raises money from those most able to pay. This tax will generate at least \$34 billion in two years. State income tax is deductible from Federal income tax; now, therefore be it,

RESOLVED: That the 11th Texas Silver-Haired Legislature encourage and strongly recommend that the 80th Texas Legislature offer a voter referendum allowing voters to decide whether to authorize a state income tax.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 12th day of September, 2006, by the State Affairs Committee.

Glen Peterson, Chair

PASSED AND APPROVED this 13th day of September, 2006, by the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature.

Charlotte Parks, Speaker

ATTEST:

Carlos Higgins, Secretary