

ANALYSES OF PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

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SUMMARY OF COMMENTS

The following comments supporting or opposing the proposed amendment reflect positions that were presented in committee proceedings, during house or senate floor debate, or in the analysis of the resolution prepared by the House Research Organization (HRO) when the resolution was considered by the House of Representatives.

Comments by Supporters

- Providing a predictable and sustainable source of funding for high-quality research at universities in Texas that do not have access to the Permanent University Fund will help ensure that the future workforce needs of the state are met and that the state's economy continues to grow.
- Increased investment in cutting-edge research at universities in Texas is key to the state remaining competitive with other states making similar investments.
- Investing in research at the state level will help attract federal and private research funding and improve the caliber of the state's research universities. This will make it easier to recruit students and faculty.
- Previous legislation establishing higher education research funds has been successful in helping universities increase their research capabilities. The additional funding provided through H.J.R. 3 will allow these universities to continue their growth.

Comments by Opponents

- No opposition to the proposed constitutional amendment was expressed during legislative consideration of the proposal. However, a review of other sources indicates concern about the use of money from the economic stabilization fund (often referred to as the "rainy day fund") to fund higher education initiatives since that fund was not designed for such purposes.