

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Judicial salaries in Texas are consistently lower than those of other states with similar populations, and the state judiciary has received only two pay raises since 2000; and

WHEREAS, The Judicial Compensation Commission was created in 2007 to recommend appropriate salaries for judges of the Texas Supreme Court, the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, the courts of appeals, and the district courts; since its inception, the JCC has issued a report during each state legislative session; the only upgrade in compensation came after the commission's 2012 endorsement of a 21.5 percent raise in judicial salaries; the legislature voted to increase wages by 12 percent; and

WHEREAS, The Texas judiciary plays a fundamental role in upholding the rule of law and safeguarding the rights and protections guaranteed to citizens by the state and federal constitutions, and competitive wages help to attract and retain the most qualified and capable judges for courts across the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 85th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby request the lieutenant governor and the speaker of the house of representatives to create a joint interim committee to study state judicial salaries; and, be it further

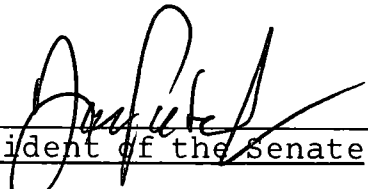
RESOLVED, That the study include the creation of a formula to calculate state judicial salaries, examining the salaries of the

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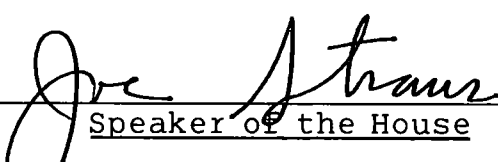
S.C.R. No. 57

1 highest appellate courts of the nine most populous states other
2 than Texas, the salaries of judges on the United States Courts of
3 Appeals, and the average starting base salaries of first-year
4 associate attorneys at the five largest law firms in Texas; and, be
5 it further

6 RESOLVED, That the committee's proceedings and operations be
7 governed by such general rules and policies for joint interim
8 committees as the 85th Legislature may adopt. _____

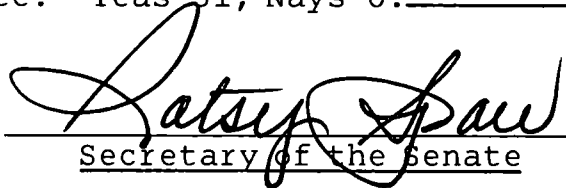


President of the Senate



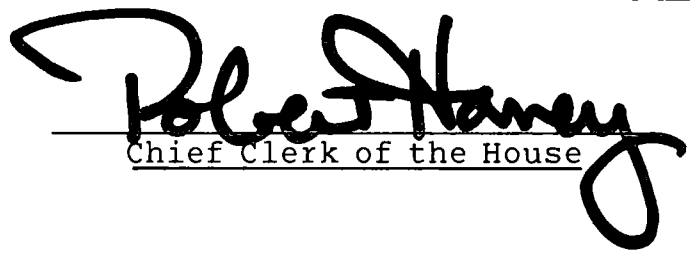
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.C.R. No. 57 was adopted by the Senate
on May 28, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0. _____



Secretary of the Senate

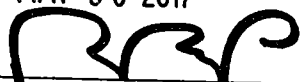
I hereby certify that S.C.R. No. 57 was adopted by the House
on May 29, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 146, Nays 0,
one present not voting. _____



Chief Clerk of the House

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
1:36 PM O'CLOCK

MAY 30 2017



Secretary of State