A Joint Resolution directing the Secretary of State to refer to the people for their approval or rejection a proposed amendment to Section 33 of Article V of the Constitution of the State of Oklahoma; modifying voting requirement with respect to revenue measure; providing ballot title; and directing filing.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 56TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

SECTION 1. The Secretary of State shall refer to the people for their approval or rejection, as and in the manner provided by law, the following proposed amendment to Section 33 of Article V of the Constitution of the State of Oklahoma to read as follows:

Section 33. A. All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives. The Senate may propose amendments to revenue bills.

B. No revenue bill shall be passed during the five last days of the session.
C. Any revenue bill originating in the House of Representatives shall not become effective until it has been referred to the people of the state at the next general election held throughout the state and shall become effective and be in force when it has been approved by a majority of the votes cast on the measure at such election and not otherwise, except as otherwise provided in subsection D of this section.

D. Any revenue bill originating in the House of Representatives may become law without being submitted to a vote of the people of the state if such bill receives the approval of three-fourths (3/4) two-thirds (2/3) of the membership of the House of Representatives and three-fourths (3/4) two-thirds (2/3) of the membership of the Senate and is submitted to the Governor for appropriate action. Any such revenue bill shall not be subject to the emergency measure provision authorized in Section 58 of this Article and shall not become effective and be in force until ninety days after it has been approved by the Legislature, and acted on by the Governor.

SECTION 2. The Ballot Title for the proposed Constitutional amendment as set forth in SECTION 1 of this resolution shall be in the following form:

BALLOT TITLE

Legislative Referendum No. ___     State Question No. ___

THE GIST OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:
This measure amends the Oklahoma Constitution. It amends Section 33 of Article 5. This section governs the way in which revenue raising bills are considered in a session of the Legislature. Under current law, if three-fourths (3/4) of the members of each chamber of the Legislature vote to approve a revenue-raising measure, that measure does not have to be submitted to a vote of the people for their approval. This measure would reduce the three-fourths (3/4) requirement to two-thirds (2/3). If the amendment is adopted, the current voting requirement would be reduced from seventy-five percent (75%) to sixty-six and two-thirds percent (66 2/3%). For the Oklahoma House of Representatives this means the number of votes required for approval without submitting the question to a vote of the people would change from 76 votes to 68 votes. For the Oklahoma State Senate this means the number of votes required for approval without submitting the question to a vote of the people would change from 36 votes to 32 votes.

SHALL THE PROPOSAL BE APPROVED?

FOR THE PROPOSAL – YES ______________

AGAINST THE PROPOSAL – NO ______________

SECTION 3. The Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives, immediately after the passage of this resolution, shall prepare and file one copy thereof, including the Ballot Title set forth in
SECTION 2 hereof, with the Secretary of State and one copy with the Attorney General.

Passed the House of Representatives the 15th day of March, 2018.

Presiding Officer of the House of Representatives

Passed the Senate the ___ day of __________, 2018.

Presiding Officer of the Senate