ENROLLED SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NUMBER 33
ENACTED BY THE SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF THE
THIRTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA
NUMBERED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE
LEGISLATIVE REFERENDUM NUMBER 240, STATE QUESTION NUMBER 572
RECEIVED: MARCH 22, 1984
A JOINT RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SECRETARY OF
STATE TO REFER TO THE PEOPLE FOR THEIR APPROVAL OR
REJECTION A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SECTION 26 OF
ARTICLE X OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF
OKLAHOMA; PROVIDING FOR LIMITATIONS ON
INDEBTEDNESS OF POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS; INCREASING
MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF INDEBTEDNESS FOR SCHOOL
DISTRICTS; REQUIRING VOTER APPROVAL; PROVIDING FOR
REPAYMENT OF INDEBTEDNESS; ALLOWING SCHOOL
DISTRICTS TO CONTRACT WITH CERTAIN PERSONNEL FOR
PERIODS BEYOND CURRENT FISCAL YEAR WITH CERTAIN
LIMITATIONS; PROVIDING BALLOT TITLE; AND DIRECTING
FILING.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
2ND SESSION OF THE 39TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 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 26 of
Article X of the Constitution of the State of Oklahoma to read as
follows:

Section 26. Except as herein otherwise provided, no county,
city, town, township, school district, or other political
corporation, or subdivision of the state, shall be allowed to become
indebted, in any manner, or for any purpose, to an amount exceeding,
in any year, the income and revenue provided for such year without
the assent of three-fifths of the voters thereof, voting at an
election, to be held for that purpose, nor, in cases requiring such
assent, shall any indebtedness be allowed to be incurred to an
amount, including existing indebtedness, in the aggregate exceeding
five percent (5%) of the valuation of the taxable property therein,
to be ascertained from the last assessment for state and county
purposes previous to the incurring of such indebtedness: Provided,
that if a school district has an absolute need therefor, such
district may, with the assent of three-fifths of the voters thereof
voting at an election to be held for that purpose, incur indebtedness
to an amount, including existing indebtedness, in the aggregate
exceeding five percent (5%) but not exceeding ten percent (10%)
fifteen percent (15%) of the valuation of the taxable property
therein, to be ascertained from the last assessment for state and
county purposes previous to the incurring of such indebtedness, for
the purpose of acquiring or improving school sites, constructing,
repairing, remodeling or equipping buildings, or acquiring school
furniture, fixtures or equipment; and such assent to such
indebtedness shall be deemed to be a sufficient showing of such
absolute need, unless otherwise provided by law. Provided further,
that if a city or town has an absolute need therefor, such city or
town may, with the assent of three-fifths of the voters thereof
voting at an election to be held for that purpose, incur indebtedness
to an amount, including existing indebtedness, in the aggregate exceeding five percent (5%) but not exceeding ten percent (10%) of the valuation of the taxable property therein, to be ascertained from the last assessment for state and county purposes previous to the incurring of such indebtedness, and such assent to such indebtedness shall be deemed to be a sufficient showing of such absolute need unless otherwise provided by law. Provided, further, that any county, city, town, school district, or other political corporation, or subdivision of the state, incurring any indebtedness requiring the assent of the voters as aforesaid, shall, before or at the time of doing so, provide for the collection of an annual tax sufficient to pay the interest on such indebtedness as it falls due, and also to constitute a sinking fund for the payment of the principal thereof within twenty-five (25) years from the time of contracting the same, and provided further that nothing in this section shall prevent any school district from contracting with certificated personnel for periods extending one (1) year beyond the current fiscal year, under such conditions and limitations as shall be prescribed by law.

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:

Shall a Constitutional amendment

amending Section 26 of Article X of the Constitution of the State of Oklahoma which provides for indebtedness of political subdivisions by increasing debt limit for school districts from ten percent to fifteen percent; requiring voter approval; providing for repayment of indebtedness; and allowing school districts to contract with certificated personnel for periods beyond current fiscal year with certain limitations

be approved by the people?

SHALL THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT BE APPROVED?

☐ YES, FOR THE AMENDMENT

☐ NO, AGAINST THE AMENDMENT

SECTION 3. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall, immediately after passage of this resolution, 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 Senate the 14th day of February, 1984.

Acting President of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the 21st day of March, 1984.

Speaker of the House of Representatives

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Secretary of State this 22nd day of March, 1984, at 12:01 o'clock P.M.

By:

ENR. S. J. R. NO. 33 Page 3
The Honorable Jeannette B. Edmondson  
Secretary of State  
State Capitol Building  
Oklahoma City, OK  73105

RE: Ballot Title for Legislative Referendum No.240  
State Question Number 572

Dear Secretary Edmondson:

The Attorney General has received your letter dated September 5, 1984, requesting review of the subject Ballot Title as required by 34 O.S.Supp.1983, § 9.

The Ballot Title as proposed by you and approved by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, reads as follows:

**BALLOT TITLE**

This measure would amend the Oklahoma Constitution. It would amend section 26 of Article X. This section relates to the debt limits of political units of the state. The measure changes the limit on debts a school district may incur for buildings and equipment. The limit is based on the value of the taxable property of the school district. The measure changes the current limit of ten percent (10%) to fifteen percent (15%). Any increase in the limit by a school district would require the approval of the voters of the district.

SHALL THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT BE APPROVED BY THE PEOPLE?

(1) Yes, for the amendment

(2) No, against the amendment
The Attorney General has reviewed your proposed official ballot title for Legislative Referendum No. 240, State Question No. 572 and certifies that the proposed ballot title is in legal form and harmony with the law.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL C. TURPEN
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF OKLAHOMA