

1 THE STATE SENATE  
2 Monday, February 22, 2010

3 Senate Joint  
4 Resolution No. 53  
5 As Amended

6 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 53 - By: Rice and Sparks of the Senate  
7 and Dank of the House.

8 [ Joint Resolution - disclose personal or private interest  
9 on legislation - provision - ballot title - filing ]

10 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
11 2ND SESSION OF THE 52ND OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

12 SECTION 1. The Secretary of State shall refer to the people for  
13 their approval or rejection, as and in the manner provided by law,  
14 the following proposed amendment to Section 24 of Article V of the  
15 Oklahoma Constitution to read as follows:

16 Section 24. A member of the Legislature, who has a personal or  
17 private interest in any measure or bill, proposed or pending before  
18 the Legislature, shall disclose the fact to the House of which he or  
19 she is a member, and shall not vote thereon. In deciding whether or  
20 not he or she has a personal or private interest, considerations by  
21 a member shall include, but not be limited to:

22 1. Whether the interest impedes the member's independence of  
23 judgment;



1 This measure amends Section 24 of Article 5 of the State  
2 Constitution. It applies to a member of the Senate or House who  
3 has an interest in a bill or measure. Under current law, the  
4 member must tell his or her House about it. In this case, the  
5 member cannot vote. This measure would require the member to  
6 think about certain things in making this decision. These would  
7 include whether the interest affects the member's independence  
8 of judgment. It would also include the effect on public  
9 confidence in the integrity of the Legislature. It would also  
10 include the effect of constituents not being represented if the  
11 member did not vote. A member would be able to vote if the  
12 interest was due to belonging to a group and was not greater  
13 than the interest of other group members. The Senate and House  
14 would have to enact laws or rules to implement this provision.

15 SHALL THE PROPOSAL BE APPROVED?

16 FOR THE PROPOSAL - YES \_\_\_\_\_

17 AGAINST THE PROPOSAL - NO \_\_\_\_\_

18 SECTION 3. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall,  
19 immediately after the passage of this resolution, prepare and file  
20 one copy thereof, including the Ballot Title set forth in SECTION 2  
21 hereof, with the Secretary of State and one copy with the Attorney  
22 General.

23 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON RULES, dated 2-17-10 - DO PASS, As  
24 Amended and Coauthored.