OFFICIAL JOURNAL of the CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION of the STATE OF TEXAS

EIGHTY-FIFTH DAY (Wednesday, June 12, 1974)

AFTER RECESS

The Convention met at 10:00 o'clock a.m., pursuant to recess, and was called to order by the Vice-President.

The roll was called and the following were recorded present: 164 Present, 7 Absent-excused, 10 Absent. (Record 1, Appendix)

The Reverend Howard Gates, Manor Baptist Church, Manor, Texas, offered the invocation as follows:

Father, we thank you for this Convention—for the delegates, the aides, the secretaries and staff. We thank you for newfound friends and fine fellowship. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve you by serving the people of this state.

Sanctify this day's work to the betterment of our state, the enrichment of our own lives, and the greater glory of God. We pray in Christ's name. Amen.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

pelegate Lombardino was granted leave of absence for today on account of important business on motion of Delegate Bird.

Delegate Sanchez was granted leave of absence for today on account of illness on motion of Delegate Atwell.

Delegate Cooke was granted leave of absence for today on account of illness on motion of Delegate Coody.

Delegate Snelson was granted leave of absence for today on account of important state business on motion of Delegate Sherman of Potter.

Delegate McKnight was granted leave of absence for today on account of illness on motion of Delegate Aikin.

Delegate Hall of Webb was granted leave of absence for today on account of important business on motion of Delegate Grant.

Delegate Leland was granted leave of absence for today on account of important business on motion of Delegate Johnson.

(President in Chair)

ARTICLE V ON SECOND READING

The President laid before the Convention as unfinished business Article V.

question: Shall Article V be adopted?

Delegate Nabers offered the following amendment to Article V:

BE IT PROPOSED BY THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION OF TEXAS,

That there be a new article on the judiciary to read as follows:

ARTICLE V THE JUDICIARY

Sec. 1. JUDICIAL POWEP. The judicial power of the state is vested in the judicial branch. The state unified judicial system is composed of a supreme court, courts of appeals, district courts, and circuit courts. All courts have jurisdiction as provided by law, but jurisdiction of courts of the same level must be uniform throughout the state.

Sec. 2. SUPREME COURT. (a) The supreme court shall be the highest court of the state and shall consist of the Chief Justice of Texas and at least eight other justices. The court may sit in criminal and civil sections. The concurrence of a majority of the judges sitting in each section is necessary to decide a case. It shall have such jurisdiction and administrative and rule-making authority as provided in this article or by law.

(b) The legislature may grant jurisdiction to the supreme court to receive and answer questions of state law certified from federal courts.

Sec. 3. COURTS OF APPEALS. There shall be one or more courts of appeals as provided by law, each consisting of a chief judge and at least two other judges. The legislature may authorize the court to sit in sections. The concurrence of a majority of the judges sitting is necessary to decide a case.

Sec. 4. DISTRICT COURTS. The state shall be divided into judicial districts as now or hereafter provided by law. In each district there shall be one district court with one or more district judges.

Sec. 5. CIRCUIT COURTS. The legislature may establish by law circuit courts with one or more judges. Funds collected by the circuit courts or the unified judicial system may be used to support such courts.

Sec. 6. OTHER COURTS. (a) A county court, presided over by the county judge, provided for in Article IX, Section 3(a) of this constitution is hereby established, with such jurisdiction as now or hereafter provided by law

provided by law.

(b) The county commission in each county shall divide the county from time to time into justice precincts, not less than four nor more than eight.

(c) The county commission in each county shall establish and maintain one or more justice courts in the county with each court to exercise jurisdiction in one or more precincts in the manner provided by law.

(d) Municipal courts may be established by law or by charter as authorized by law and shall have such jurisdiction as provided by law.

Sec. 7. QUALIFICATIONS OF JUDGES. No

person may serve as a justice, judge, or justice of the peace unless the person is a United States citizen and a resident of this state and has other qualifications prescribed by law. No person may serve as justice or in the unified judicial system unless licensed to practice law in this state.

Sec. 8. ELECTION OF JUDGES. (a) The Chief Justice of Texas and other justices of the supreme court are elected by the qualified voters of the state every six years in the manner provided by law. Judges of the courts of appeals are elected by the qualified voters of their respective districts every six years in the manner provided by law.

(b) District and circuit judges are elected by the qualified voters of their respective districts every four years in the

manner provided by law.
(c) Vacancies in the offices justices of the supreme court and judges of the courts of appeals, district courts, and circuit courts are filled by the governor, with the advice and consent of the senate, until the next succeeding general election.

(d) Justices of the peace are elected by the qualified voters of the county or precinct every four years in the manner provided by law. Vacancies in the office of justice of the peace are filled by the county commission until the next succeeding general

election.
(e) Municipal judges are selected in the manner provided by law or by charter as

authorized by law.

QUALIFICATIONS COMMISSION; Sec. 9. REMOVAL OF JUDGES. (a) There shall be a judicial qualifications commission with such authority and functions as provided by law.

- (b) A justice of the supreme court may be removed by the governor on the address of two-thirds of each house of the legislature for willful neglect of duty, incompetency, oppression in office, or other reasonable cause not a sufficient ground for impeachment.
- (c) Any justice of the supreme court, judge, or justice of the peace may removed, suspended, or censured as provided by law.
- 10. COURT ADMINISTRATION. Sec. (1) The supreme court shall provide for the efficient operation of the judicial system. The court may direct the transfer of cases from one court to another within each level of the judicial system and may assign judges within or between levels. The court may delegate responsibility for administration to the chief justice and administrative judges provided for in Subsection (a)(2) of this section.
- Each court of appeals district (2) within the state constitutes an administrative district for purposes of trial court management. Within each district, the Chief Justice of Texas, with the advice and consent of the senate, shall designate a judge to serve as administrative judge of the district.
- (3) The legislature may establish an agency of the judicial branch having such membership as provided by law to prescribe rules of administration for the unified judicial system not inconsistent with general

law or rules of procedure, and perform such other duties as shall be provided by law. Rules of administration promulgated by the agency shall not become effective until approved by the supreme court.

(b) The supreme court may promulgate rules of civil procedure not inconsistent with the laws of the state, for all courts, to expedite the dispatch of business therein. Any rule of procedure expressly disapproved by the legislature shall have no effect thereafter.

11. COUNTY sec. DISTRICT CLERKS: CLERKS. (a) A district clerk, who serves as clerk of the district and circuit courts of the county, is elected by the qualified voters of each county for a term of four The clerk may be removed from office upon a jury finding of incompetence, official misconduct, or other cause defined by law. Vacancies in the office of district clerk shall be filled by the judges of the district and circuit courts in the county until the next general election. Each clerk may have a deputy or deputies and other personnel authorized by law.

(b) The county clerk, who serves as clerk of the county commission and recorder of the county, is elected by the qualified voters of each county for a term of four years. The legislature shall prescribe the duties, perquisites, and fees of the office. A vacancy in the office shall be filled by the county commission until the next general election.

(c) The legislature may provide by law for the election of a single clerk to perform the duties of both a county clerk district clerk.

Sec. 12. JURIES. (a) A grand jury in the district court consists of 12 persons, of whom nine constitute a quorum and must concur in a bill of indictment.

(b) The legislature shall provide by law for trial juries.

(c) A party has the right to a jury trial upon demand made in the prescribed by law.

(d) Jury verdicts must be unanimous, except that the legislature, or the supreme court pursuant to its rule-making authority, may authorize jury verdicts in civil cases rendered by not less than three-fourths of the jurors sitting in a case.

(e) The legislature may provide by law for alternate jurors.

Sec. 13. SENTENCING AND PROBATION. Courts having original jurisdiction of criminal cases shall have power to suspend the imposition or execution of sentence place a defendant on probation; and shall have further power to modify, set aside, or reimpose sentence, subject to regulation by

Sec. 14. APPEAL BY STATE. The right of the State to appeal in criminal cases shall be limited to:

(a) a trial court decision which rules a law unconstitutional.

(b) A Court of Appeals decision which is in conflict with another Court of Appeals decision and only for the purpose of clarification; however, a defendant may not be tried again for the same offense.

Sec. 15. APPEAL BY ACCUSED. (a) accused shall have the right of appeal to the appellate court having jurisdiction,

specifically including the right of appeal granted by Article I, Section 11a of this constitution.

(b) Appeal to the supreme court in criminal cases shall be at the discretion of the court, unless otherwise provided by law.

Sec. 16. APPEALS FROM ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION. Notwithstanding any other provision of the constitution, the legislature may provide by law for the method of appeal to the courts from actions, rulings, or decisions of administrative agencies and executive departments of the state or any of its subdivisions.

Sec. 17. DISTRICT ATTORNEYS; COUNTY ATTORNEYS. (a) The state shall be represented in each county by a district attorney as now or hereafter provided by law. The district attorneys shall be elected by qualified voters of their respective districts, and shall serve for a term of four years and until their successors have qualified. The state shall provide for the basic compensation of district attorneys.

(b) with such exceptions as now or hereafter provided by law, county attorneys shall be elected by the qualified voters of each county and shall hold office for a term of four years and until their successors have

qualified.

Each district and county attorney (c) shall be licensed to practice law in this Other qualifications, duties, state. functions of district and county attorneys and the grounds and procedure for disqualification, suspension, removal, and filling of vacancies shall be as provided by

Sec. 18. COMPENSATION. The state shall pay the basic salaries of all justices and judges of the unified judicial system and shall pay such other expenses of the system as provided by law.

Sec. 19. JUDICIAL RETIREMENT. (a) The legislature may prescribe by law the mandatory retirement age of a justice or judge in the unified judicial system.

- (b) Notwithstanding any other provision this constitution, the system of retirement, disability, and survivors' benefits established in the constitution or by law for justices, judges, and commissioners of the appellate courts and judges of the district and criminal district courts and in effect at the time of adoption hereof shall be continued. The legislature shall provide for inclusion in the system of judges of all courts in the unified judicial system and such other elected state officials as now or hereafter provided by law.
- (c) General administration of the Judicial Retirement System of Texas shall be by the Board of Trustees of the Employees Retirement System of Texas under such regulations as may be provided by law.

TRANSITION SCHEDULE

SUPREME COURT; COURT OF CRIMINAL (a) On the effective date of Article V, the chief justice of the supreme court becomes the Chief Justice of Texas. The presiding judge and the other judges of the court of criminal appeals and associate justices of the supreme court become justices

of the supreme court. Each commissioner of the court of criminal appeals becomes a commissioner of the supreme court, but that position exists only as long as it continues to be held by the commissioner in office on the effective date of Article V. Except for the office of chief justice, the offices of the first five justices who cease to be members of the supreme court by reason of death, removal, resignation, or retirement after the effective date of Article V cease to exist. The death, removal, resignation, or retirement of an incumbent justice after having been defeated at a primary or general election does not terminate the office.

(b) SUPREME COURT DIVISIONS. After the effective date of Article V and before the total membership of the supreme court is reduced to nine or such other number provided by law, the court may sit in civil and criminal divisions. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article V, Section 2(a), the concurrence of a majority of a division is necessary to decide a case.

(c) COURTS OF APPEALS JUSTICES. Chief

justices of the courts of civil appeals become chief judges of courts of appeals. Justices of courts of civil appeals become

judges of courts of appeals.

- DISTRICT AND CIRCUIT JUDGES. Each (d) district judge or judge or a criminal district court, domestic relations court, special juvenile court, or special probate court becomes a district court judge. Each judge of a county court at law, county civil court at law, county criminal court, county criminal court at law, county criminal court of appeals, or other county court created by statute becomes a judge of a circuit court. Until otherwise provided by law, municipal court judges and justices of the peace remain as they exist at the time of adoption of Article V.
- (e) JUDICIAL DISTRICTS. Until otherwise provided by law, the judicial districts of the state remain the judicial districts authorized at the time of adoption of Article V, including any judicial districts authorized by law taking effect after the date of adoption of Article V.
- (f) COUNTY COURT JUDGES. Judges of the county court elected pursuant to Article V, Section 15 of the Constitution of 1876, as amended, remain as presiding officers of the county commission as provided in Article Section 3(a) of this constitution. However, a judge of the county court who is licensed to practice law, by written notice to the governor filed with the secretary of state within 30 days after the effective date of Article V, may elect instead to become a judge of the circuit court established pursuant to Article V, Section 5, in the event there is no circuit court judge provided for such district under the provisions of Subsection (d) above. In the latter event, the office of county judge becomes vacant and is filled by the county commission until the next general election. Should more than one judge of the county court within the same circuit court district file such written notice, the governor shall select the one to become judge of the circuit court.
- (g) TRANSFER OF PROCEEDINGS AND RECORDS. All courts, except those authorized by Article V, are abolished and all matters

pending before them are transferred to the appropriate successor courts authorized by Article V. The courts into which the matters are transferred assume full jurisdiction of the matters and have full authority to dispose of them and to execute or otherwise give effect to all orders, judgments, and decrees issued by their predecessor courts. Courts authorized by Article V succeed to all records and property of courts abolished by this subsection.

(h) JUDICIAL OFFICE TRANSITION. No judicial office is abolished until the expiration of the term of the person who held the office on the effective date of Article V, or until that person ceases to hold the office, whichever occurs first.

(i) INITIAL JUDICIAL TERMS. The initial justices, judges, and justices of the peace in the judicial branch established by Article V serve for the remainder of the terms for which elected and thereafter serve for the terms provided in Article V.

(j) LAWS AND RULES CONTINUED. Except to the extent inconsistent with the provisions of Article V, all laws and rules of court in force on the effective date of Article V continue in effect until superseded as authorized by law.

(k) TRANSFERS FROM COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS. All matters filed in or docketed, but not heard, by the court of criminal appeals on the effective date of Article V are transferred to the court of appeals to which the matters would have been docketed were they civil in nature and the court of appeals still a court of civil appeals. Until the legislature or supreme court makes provisions for the appeal of criminal cases from the courts of appeals, the rules presently in force for appeals from courts of civil appeals also apply to the appeal of criminal cases.

(1) QUALIFICATIONS COMMISSION. Members of the judicial qualifications commission shall continue in office and perform the duties of the commission established by Article V, Section 1-a(2) of the 1876 Constitution, as amended, until a commission is established pursuant to Article V, Section 10(a) of this constitution.

(m) JUDICIAL COUNCIL. Until otherwise provided by law, the judicial council provided for in Article V, Section 11(a)(3) is composed of the following members, each of whom serves a two-year term: the Chief Justice of Texas, who serves as chairman; two judges of the courts of appeals, three trial judges, and one district clerk, each appointed by the supreme court; four members of the State Bar of Texas, each appointed by its board of directors; and two members of each house of the legislature, each appointed by their respective houses.

(n) PROSECUTORS. All laws pertaining to the office of district attorney, criminal district attorney, or county attorney which are in effect on the effective date of Article V remain in effect until changed by law.

(o) RETIREMENT FUND TRANSFERS. Any participant in a county retirement, disability, and death compensation fund who becomes, pursuant to Article V or this transition schedule, a judge of a district or

circuit court has the option of continuing to participate in the county fund or of transferring membership and accrued service credit and contributions to the state judicial retirement system under such regulations as provided by law.

(p) OTHER PROVISIONS. In the event a transfer or transition has not been provided for by this section or by law, the supreme court shall provide by rule for the orderly transfer or transition.

(q) EFFECTIVE DATE. Article V of this constitution takes effect January 1, 1976.

The amendment was read.

Delegate Sherman of Potter offered the following substitute for the amendment:

Amend the Nabers amendment to Article V by substituting in lieu thereof the following:

ARTICLE V THE JUDICIARY

Section 1. JUDICIAL POWER. The judicial power of the state is vested in the judicial branch. The state unified judicial system is composed of a supreme court, courts of appeals, district courts, and circuit courts. All courts have jurisdiction as provided by law, but jurisdiction of courts of the same level in the unified judicial system must be uniform throughout the state.

Sec. 2. SUPREME COURT. (a) The supreme court shall be the highest court of the state and shall consist of the Chief Justice of Texas and at least eight other justices. The court may sit en banc or in sections of not less than five justices, and the concurrence of a majority of the justices sitting is necessary to decide a case. The court has such jurisdiction and administrative and rule-making authority as provided in this article or by law.

(b) The legislature may grant jurisdiction to the supreme court to receive and answer questions of state law certified from federal courts.

Sec. 3. COURTS OF APPEALS. There shall be one or more courts of appeals as provided by law, each consisting of a chief judge and at least two other judges. The legislature may authorize the court to sit in sections. The concurrence of a majority of the judges sitting is necessary to decide a case.

Sec. 4. DISTRICT COURTS. The state shall be divided into judicial districts as now or hereafter provided by law. In each district there shall be one district court with one or more district judges.

Sec. 5. CIRCUIT COURTS. The legislature may provide by law for circuit courts and shall from time to time determine the number and location of such courts. A circuit court may serve one or more counties, but no county shall have more than one circuit court. Each circuit court shall have one or more judges and such other officials as provided by law.

Sec. 6. OTHER COURTS. (a) The constitutional county courts in existence at the time of the adoption of this constitution are continued in effect unless otherwise provided by law and shall have such jurisdiction as now or hereafter provided by

The county judge provided for in law. Article IX, Section 3(a) of this constitution presides over the county court and has iudicial functions as now or hereafter provided by law.

(b) The county commission in each county shall divide the county from time to time into justice precincts, not less than

four nor more than eight.

The county commission in each (c) county shall establish and maintain one or more justice courts in the county with each court to exercise jurisdiction in one or more precincts in the manner provided by law.

(d) Municipal courts may be established by law or by charter as authorized by law and shall have such jurisdiction as provided by

QUALIFICATIONS OF JUDGES. No person may serve as a justice, judge, justice of the peace unless the person is a United States citizen and a resident of this state and has other qualifications prescribed by law. No person may serve as justice or judge in the unified judicial system unless licensed to practice law in this state.

Sec. 8. ELECTION OF JUDGES. (a) The Chief Justice of Texas and other justices the supreme court are elected by the qualified voters of the state every six years in the manner provided by law. Judges of the courts of appeals are elected by the qualified voters of their respective districts every six years in the manner provided by law.

District and circuit judges are (b) elected by the qualified voters of their respective districts every four years in the

manner provided by law.

(c) Vacancies in the of offices justices of the supreme court and judges of the courts of appeals, district courts, and circuit courts are filled by the governor, with the advice and consent of the senate, until the next succeeding general election.

(d) Justices of the peace are elected by the qualified voters of the county or precinct every four years in the manner provided by law. Vacancies in the office of justice of the peace are filled by the county commission until the next succeeding general election.

(e) Municipal judges are selected in the manner provided by law or by charter as

authorized by law.
QUALIFICATIONS COMMISSION: REMOVAL OF JUDGES. (a) There shall be a judicial qualifications commission with such authority and functions as provided by law.

(b) A justice of the supreme court may be removed by the governor on the address of two-thirds of each house of the legislature for willful neglect of duty, incompetency, oppression in office, or other reasonable cause not a sufficient ground for impeachment.

(c) Any justice of the supreme court, judge, or justice of the peace may be removed, suspended, or censured as provided

by law.

Sec. 10. COURT ADMINISTRATION. (a)(1) The supreme court shall provide for the efficient operation of the judicial system. The court may direct the transfer of cases from one court to another within each level of the judicial system and may assign judges within or between levels. The court may delegate responsibility for administration to the chief justice and administrative judges provided for in Subsection (a)(2) of this section.

Each court of appeals district (2) the state within constitutes administrative district for purposes of trial court management, within each district, the Chief Justice of Texas, with the advice and consent of the senate, shall designate a judge to serve as administrative judge of the

district.

(3) The legislature may establish an agency of the judicial branch having such membership as provided by law to prescribe rules of administration for the unified judicial system not inconsistent with general law or rules of procedure, and perform such other duties as shall be provided by law. Rules of administration promulgated by the agency shall not become effective until approved by the supreme court.

(b) The supreme court may promulgate rules of civil procedure not inconsistent with the laws of the state, for all courts, to expedite the dispatch of business therein. Any rule of procedure expressly disapproved by the legislature shall have no effect

thereafter.

Sec. 11. DISTRICT CLERKS; COUNTY CLERKS. (a) A district clerk, who serves as DISTRICT CLERKS; COUNTY clerk of the district and circuit courts the county, is elected by the qualified voters of each county for a term of four years. The clerk may be removed from office upon a jury finding of incompetence, official misconduct, or other cause defined by law. Vacancies in the office of district clerk shall be filled by the judges of the district and circuit courts in the county until next general election. Each clerk may have a deputy or deputies and other personnel authorized by law.

(b) The county clerk, who serves as clerk of the county commission and recorder of the county, is elected by the qualified voters of each county for a term of four The legislature shall prescribe the vears. duties, perguisites, and fees of the office. A vacancy in the office shall be filled by the county commission until the next general

election.

(c) The legislature may provide by for the election of a single clerk to perform the duties of both a county clerk and a district clerk.

Sec. 12. JURIES. (a) A grand jury in the district court consists of 12 persons, of whom nine constitute a quorum and must concur in a bill of indictment.

(b) The legislature shall provide by law for trial juries.

(c) A party has the right to a jury trial upon demand made in the manner prescribed by law.

(d) Jury verdicts must be unanimous, except that the legislature, or the supreme court pursuant to its rule-making authority, may authorize jury verdicts in civil cases rendered by not less than three-fourths of the jurors sitting in a case.

(e) The legislature may provide by law for alternate jurors.

Sec. 13. SENTENCING AND PROBATION. Subject to regulation by law, courts having

original jurisdiction of criminal cases shall have power to suspend the imposition or execution of sentence and place a defendant on probation; and <u>as authorized by law</u>, such courts shall have further power to modify, set aside, or reimpose sentence.

Sec. 14. APPEAR BY STATE. Subject to the quarantees of Article I of this Constitution, the state may appeal in criminal cases only:

(a) from a trial court dicision holding

a law unconstitutional; or

(b) from an appeals court decision to the supreme court at the discretion of the supreme court, unless otherwise provided by

Sec. 15. APPEAL BY ACCUSED. (a) The accused shall have the right of appeal to the appellate court having jurisdiction, specifically including the right of appeal granted by Article I, Section 11a of this constitution.

(b) Appeal to the supreme court in criminal cases shall be at the discretion of the supreme court, unless otherwise provided

by law.

Sec. 16. APPEALS FROM ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION. Notwithstanding any other provision of the constitution, the legislature may provide by law for the method of appeal to the courts from actions, rulings, or decisions of administrative agencies and executive departments of the state or any of its subdivisions.

Sec. 17. DISTRICT ATTORNEYS; COUNTY ATTORNEYS. (a) The state shall be represented in each county by a district attorney as now or hereafter provided by law. The district attorneys shall be elected by the qualified voters of their respective districts, and shall serve for a term of four years and until their successors have qualified. The state shall provide for the basic compensation of district attorneys.

(b) With such exceptions as now or hereafter provided by law, county attorneys shall be elected by the qualified voters of each county and shall hold office for a term of four years and until their successors have

qualified.

(c) Each district and county attorney shall be licensed to practice law in this state. Other qualifications, duties, and functions of district and county attorneys and the grounds and procedure for disqualification, suspension, removal, and filling of vacancies shall be as provided by law.

Sec. 18. COMPENSATION. The state shall pay the basic salaries of all justices and judges of the unified judicial system and shall pay such other expenses of the system as provided by law.

TRANSITION SCHEDULE

(a) SUPREME COURT; COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS. On the effective date of Article V, the chief justice of the supreme court becomes the Chief Justice of Texas. The presiding judge and the other judges of the court of criminal appeals and associate justices of the supreme court become justices of the supreme court. Each commissioner of the court of criminal appeals becomes a

commissioner of the supreme court, but that position exists only as long as it continues to be held by the commissioner in office on the effective date of Article V. Except for the office of chief justice, the offices of the first five justices who cease to be members of the supreme court by reason of death, removal, resignation, or retirement after the effective date of Article V cease to exist. The death, removal, resignation, or retirement of an incumbent justice after having been defeated at a primary or general election does not terminate the office.

(b) COURTS OF APPEALS JUSTICES. Chief justices of the courts of civil appeals become chief judges of courts of appeals. Justices of courts of civil appeals become

judges of courts of appeals.

(c) DISTRICT AND CIRCUIT JUDGES. Each district judge or judge of a criminal district court, domestic relations court, special juvenile court, or special probate court becomes a district court judge. Each judge of a county court at law, county civil court at law, county criminal court, county criminal court at law, county criminal court of appeals, or other county court created by statute becomes a judge of a circuit court. Until otherwise provided by law, municipal court judges and justices of the peace remain as they exist at the time of adoption of Article V.

(d) JUDICIAL DISTRICTS. Until otherwise provided by law, the judicial districts of the state remain the judicial districts authorized at the time of adoption of Article V, including any judicial districts authorized by law taking effect after the date of adoption of Article V.

(e) COUNTY COURT; COUNTY JUDGE. Unless otherwise provided by law, county courts created in Article V, Section 15 of the Constitution of 1876, as amended, continue in effect as the courts authorized in Section this constitution and the judges of 6(a) of those courts remain as county court judges and as presiding officers of the county commission as provided in Article IX, Section 3(a) of this constitution. However, a judge of the county court who is licensed to practice law, by written notice to the governor filed with the secretary of state within 30 days after the effective date of Article V, may elect instead to become a judge of the circuit court established pursuant to Article V, Section 5, in the event there is no circuit court judge provided for such district under the provisions of Subsection (c) above. In latter event, the office of county judge becomes vacant and is filled by the county commission until the next general election. Should more than one judge of the county court within the same circuit court district file such written notice, the governor shall select the one to become judge of the circuit court.

(f) TRANSFER OF PROCEEDINGS AND RECORDS. All courts, except those authorized by Article V, are hereby abolished and all matters pending before them are transferred to the appropriate successor courts authorized by Article V. The courts into which the matters are transferred assume full jurisdiction of the matters and have full authority to dispose of them and to execute or otherwise give effect to all orders,

judgments, and decrees issued by their predecessor courts. Courts authorized by Article V succeed to all records and property of courts abolished by this subsection.

(g) JUDICIAL OFFICE TRANSITION. No judicial office is abolished until the expiration of the term of the person who held the office on the effective date of Article V, or until that person ceases to hold the office, whichever occurs first.

(h) INITIAL JUDICIAL TERMS. The initial justices, judges, and justices of the peace in the judicial branch established by Article V serve for the remainder of the terms for which elected and thereafter serve for the terms provided in Article V.

(i) LAWS AND RULES CONTINUED. Except to the extent inconsistent with the provisions of Article V, all laws and rules of court in force on the effective date of Article V continue in effect until superseded

as authorized by law.

- (j) TRANSFERS FROM COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS. All matters filed in or docketed, but not heard, by the court of criminal appeals on the effective date of Article V are transferred to the court of appeals to which the matters would have been docketed were they civil in nature and the court of appeals still a court of civil appeals. Until the legislature or supreme court makes provisions for the appeal of criminal cases from the courts of appeals, the rules presently in force for appeals from courts of civil appeals also apply to the appeal of criminal cases.
- (k) QUALIFICATIONS COMMISSION. Members of the judicial qualifications commission shall continue in office and perform the duties of the commission established by Article V, Section 1-a(2) of the 1876 Constitution, as amended, until a commission is established pursuant to Article V, Section 9(a) of this constitution.
- (1) PROSECUTORS. All laws pertaining to the office of district attorney, criminal district attorney, or county attorney which are in effect on the effective date of Article V remain in effect until changed by law.
- (m) CLERKS. All laws pertaining to the office of district clerk or county clerk which are in effect on the effective date of Article V, and which are consistent with the provisions hereof, remain in effect until changed by law.
- (n) OTHER PROVISIONS. In the event a transfer or transition has not been provided for by this section or by law, the supreme court shall provide by rule for the orderly transfer or transition.
- (o) EFFECTIVE DATE. Article V of this constitution takes effect January 1, 1976.

SHERMAN OF POTTER
CLAYTON
HALE
GEIGER
KORIOTH
WYATT
SULLIVANT
PEVETO
EARLF
MALONEY
MCDONALD OF HIDALGO

POWERS HEAD KUBIAK DOYLE BAKER HENDRICKS CALDWELL GRANT GARCIA HUTCHISON FINNEY PARKER OF JEFFERSON OL SON LAUHOFF VON DOHLEN LEE EDWARDS HALL OF WEBB MUNSON

The substitute for the amendment was read.

DELEGATES PRESENT

Delegates Canales, Washington, Vecchio, Rodriguez, Bock and Lee who had previously been recorded as "Absent" were announced "Present".

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Delegate Garcia was granted leave of absence for the remainder of today on account of compassionate reasons on motion of Delegate Vale.

Delegate Parker of Denton was granted leave of absence for the remainder of today on account of district business on motion of Delegate Hendricks.

Delegate Hudson was granted leave of absence for the remainder of today on account of important business on motion of Delegate Washington.

MOTION TO RECESS

Delegate Hollowell moved that the Convention take recess until 1:30 o'clock p.m. today.

The motion was lost by a non-record vote.

ARTICLE V ON SECOND READING

The President laid before the Convention as unfinished business Article V, with a substitute to the amendment pending.

Question: Shall the substitute to the amendment be adopted?

Delegate Spurlock moved to table the substitute for the amendment.

The motion to table was lost by the following vote: 44 Yeas, 116 Nays, 2 Present-Not Voting, 19 Not Voting. (Record 2, Appendix)

PAIRED VOTE

Delegate Sutton (present), who would vote "Yea", with Delegate Von Dohlen

June 12, 1974

(absent), who would vote "Nay".

(question recurring on the adoption of the substitute for the amendment, the substitute for the amendment was adopted by the following vote: 119 Yeas, 44 Nays, 2 Present-Not Voting, 16 Not Voting. (Record 3, Appendix)

FAIRED VOTE

Delegate Sutton (present), who would vote "May", with Delegate Von Dohlen (absent), who would vote "Yea".

Question next on the adoption of the amendment as substituted, the amendment as substituted was adopted by the following vote: 118 Yeas, 45 Nays, 1 Present-Not Voting, 17 Not Voting. (Record 4, Appendix)

Question on the adoption of Article V as amended, Article V as amended was adopted by the following vote: 117 Yeas, 45 Nays, 2 Present-Not Voting, 17 Not Voting. (Record 5, Appendix)

PAIRED VOTE

Delegate Sutton (present), who would vote "Nay", with Delegate Von Dohlen (absent), who would vote "Yea".

REASONS FOR VOTE

Although I voted for the Judiciary Article, I still raise the same objection against the States right of limited appeal. It is my intention to work toward the removal of this objectional section. My vote for the entire article is based on the fact that the overall benefits that stand to be realized far outweigh my objections.

PIKI

Although I voted for the Judiciary Article, I am still opposed to the States right of limited appeal. My vote for the Judiciary Article is based on the fact that the overall article is an improvement from what we currently have and the benefits to be realized outweigh my objections.

MADLA

ARTICLE V REFERRED

The President then referred Article V to the Committee on Style and Drafting.

UNANINOUS CONSENT TO RECORD VOTES

The following delegates requested unanimous consent to be recorded as voting on the following record votes. There was no objection:

Delegate Waters requested to be recorded as voting "Yea" on Record Vote 20 of June 11, 1974.

nelegate Waters requested to be recorded as voting "Nay" on Record Votes 21 and 22 of June 11, 1974.

Delegate Scoggins requested to be recorded as voting "Nay" on Record Vote 2.

RECESS

On motion of Delegate Geiger the Convention at 12:55 o'clock p.m. took recess until 9:30 o'clock a.m. tomorrow.

YEA	N-V	NAY
Mr. F	resident	
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YEA N-V NAY	YEA N-V NAY	YEA N-V NAY
Doyle Dramberger	_Lee	Russell
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• Edwards	_Lombardino	Sanchez
• Fyans	● Longoria	Santiesteban
e Finnell	McAlister	• Schieffer
• Finney	McĂlisterMcDonald, F.	Schwartz
• Foreman	McDonald, T.	● Scoggins
• Fox	• McKinnon	• Semos
Gammage	McKnight X	Sherman, M.
Garcia	• Madla	Sherman, W.
Gaston	Maloney	Short Simmons
# Geiger	Martin	€Simmons
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Green, F. Green, R.	• Mattox	Snelson
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• Hightower	Nugent	_Von Dohlen
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Hoestenbach	Olson	_Washington
• Hollowell	Parker, C.	≥ Waters
e_Howard	Parker, W.	• Watson
• Hubenak	Patman	● Weddington
_Hudson	Pentony	• Whitehead
Hutchison	Peveto	• Whitmire
• Johnson	Poerner	Wieting
Jones, Gene	@ Poff	Williams
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SED ABSENCE
NO MINEROLE

RECORD # 1 - ROLL CALL

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YEA N-V NAY	YEA N-V NAY	YEA N-V NAY	YEA N-V I
_Mr. President	_Doyle	Lee	_Russell
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	Gammage	_Madla	_Sherman, W
Bailey		Mada	Short
Baker	Gaston	Maloney	_Simmons
Bales	Geiger	_Martin	_Simmons
Barnhart	Grant	_Massey	_Slack Snelson
_Bigham	Green, F.	Mattox •	_Snelson
Bird	Green, R.	Mauzy	- Spurlock
Blake	_Hale	_Meier	_Sullivant
Blanchard	• Hall, A. Hall, W.	Lauhoff	_Sutton _
Blythe	_Hall, WX	Mengden	_Tarbox
_Bock	• Hanna	_Miller	_Temple
Boone	Harrington	_Montoya	• Thompson
_Bowers	● Harris, E.	_Moore	_Traeger
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Calhoun	Hendricks	_Nichols	• Vecchio
Canales	_Hernandez	_Nowlin	• Vick
Cates	_Hightower	Nugent	_Von Dohlon
Clark	_Hilliard	Ogg	_Wallace
Clayton	Hoestenbach	Olson	Washington
Clower	Hollowell	Parker, C.	_Waters
Cobb	• Howard	Parker, Vv. X	_Watson
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2 Motion to Table the Sherman of Potter substitute for the Nabers Amenament to ALTI

Yea	- 44	ТОТ	ALS N	ay-	116	PNU-2	NU-19	ART	ICLE	DATE: 1_0
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Thompson
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Vecchio
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• Washington
• Waters
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USED ABSENCE
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RECORD 3 ADOPTION OF THE SHEEHAN OF POTTER SUBSTITUTE FOR THE NABERS AMENDMENT TO ART. I

YEA - 119	TOT	TALS NAY	_44	PNV-2	DATE: 1_				
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TEXAS CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

N-V

NAY

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Bryant _

X-Excused

Absence

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1622

Denton .

Donaldson_

Doggett

Doran _

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1974

Adoption of the Nabers Amendment as Substitutea.

Rodriguez ...

_Rosson _

• Kubiak ___

Laney ___

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_Mr. President	Dovle	• Lee	_Russell
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Adams, H.	Farle	Lewis	Salem
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Allred	• Foreman	McDonald, T.	Scoggins
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Atuall		_McKinnon	Sherman, M.
_Atwell Bailey Baker	Gammage	_McKnigh	Sherman, M.
Dalley	_Garcia	Madla	Sherman, vv.
_Bales	Gaston	Maloney	_Snorr
Dales	Geiger	Martin	_Simmons
Barnhart	Grant	Martin Massey Mattox Mauzy	Sherman, W. Short Simmons Slack Snelson Spurlock
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Bock	_Hanna	Miller	Temple
Boone	Harrington	Montoya	Thompson
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Braecklein	_Harris, C.	Munson	Truan
_Brooks	e_Head	Murray	● Tupper
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_Canales	Hernandez	Nowlin	Vecchio
Cates	Hernandez	Nowlin	_Von Dohlen _Wallace
Clark	Hilliard	● Ogg	Wallace
Clayton	_Hoestenbach	Olson	Washington
Clayton Clower Cobb	_Hollowell	Ogg Olson Parker, C. Parker, Vv.	• Waters
Cobb	Howard	Parker V	Watson
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Coody	• Hutchison	Peveto	Whitehead
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Craddick	Jones, Gene	P CC	_Wieting
Creighton	Jones, Grant	Poff	Williams
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_Daniel	Jones, L.	Presnal	• Willis
Davis	• Kaster	• Preston	Wilson
Denson	Korioth	_Ragsdale	• Wolff
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Doggett	Kubiak	Reynolds	• Wilson • Wolff • Wyatt • Bryant
Doggett Donaldson Doran	Laney	Reynolds	
Doran	Lary	_Rosson	EXCUSED ABSENCE

RECORD 5 ADOPTION OF ART. I AS AMENDED

YEA-117	TOTALS MAY	.45 PNV-2	NV - 17ARTIC	CLE	DATE: 1_
YEA		NAY			_JAN 2
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Phone (1-703) 355-0872 International ROLL-CALL @ Corporation, Richmond, Va. 23230