

HJR 29 -- Eminent Domain

Sponsor: Harris (110)

Upon voter approval, this proposed constitutional amendment gives the power of eminent domain to the state and its political subdivisions whose officials are directly responsible to elected officials. The bill specifies that the valuation of the property will be determined by typical appraisal methods and that the use of the property must be declared at the time of its taking. If the specified use is not pursued within five years, the original owner will be allowed to reclaim the property. Any property taken by eminent domain cannot be sold, transferred, leased, or otherwise made available for use by a private entity within 20 years of the taking unless the original owner is given the first opportunity to repurchase the property.