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*Sam Houston*  
CONSTITUTION

OR

FORM OF GOVERNMENT

OF THE

STATE OF TEXAS.

MADE IN GENERAL CONVENTION, IN THE TOWN OF SAN FELIPE DE AUSTIN,  
IN THE MONTH OF APRIL, 1833.

*Sam<sup>l</sup> Houston*

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PRINTED AT THE OFFICE OF THE COMMERCIAL BULLETIN.

NEW-ORLEANS.

1833.

*Form of Constitution*

## CONSTITUTION OF TEXAS.

In the name of God, Omnipotent Author, and Supreme Legislator of the Universe! We, the People of Texas, being capable of figuring as a State in the manner contemplated in the second article of the Decree of the General Congress of the Nation, of the 7th of May, 1824, Do ORDAIN THE FOLLOWING CONSTITUTION, and do mutually agree with each other, to form ourselves into a Free and Independant State of the Mexican Confederacy, by the name of the STATE OF TEXAS.

### GENERAL PROVISIONS.

ARTICLE 1. All power is inherent in the people; and all free governments are founded on their authority, and established for their peace, safety, and happiness: for the advancement of these ends, they have at all times an undeniable right to alter, reform, or abolish the government, in such manner as they may think proper

Art. 2. Government being instituted for the protection and common benefit of all persons, the slavish doctrine of non-resistance against arbitrary power and oppression is discarded, as destructive of the happiness of mankind, and as insulting to the rights, and subversive of the liberties of any people.

Art. 3. All elections shall be free and equal.

Art. 4. The right of trial by jury, and the privilege of the *Writ of Habeas Corpus* shall be established by law, and shall remain inviolable.

Art. 5. The people shall be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and possessions, from unreasonable searches and seizures: and general warrants, whereby an officer may be commanded to search suspected places, without evidence of the fact committed, or to seize any person, or persons, not named, whose offences are not particularly described, and supported by evidence, are dangerous to liberty, and shall not be granted.

Art. 6. No citizen shall be taken, or imprisoned, or disseized of his freehold, liberties or privileges, or outlawed, or exiled, or in any manner distrained, or deprived of his life, liberty, or property, but by the law of the land.

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Art. 7. In all criminal prosecutions, the accused hath a right to be heard by himself and his counsel, to demand the nature and cause of the accusation against him, and to have a copy thereof: he shall be confronted by his accusers and the witnesses, he shall have compulsory processes for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and in prosecutions by indictment or presentment, a speedy public trial, by an impartial jury of the municipality or district, in which the crimes shall have been committed; and shall not be compelled to give evidence against himself;

Art. 8. No person shall, for the same offence, be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb.

Art. 9. No retrospective law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts shall be made.

Art. 10. No conviction shall work corruption of blood, or forfeiture of estate.

Art. 11. No person arrested, or confined in jail, shall be treated with unnecessary rigour.

Art. 12. No person shall be compelled to answer any criminal charge but by presentment, indictment, or impeachment, or by a concurrent vote of both houses of the legislature, as provided by the constitution.

Art. 13. All persons shall be bailable by sufficient sureties, unless for capital crimes, when the proof is evident, or the presumption strong; and the privilege of the Writ of Habeas Corpus shall not be suspended, except when in cases of rebellion, or invasion, the public safety may require it.

Art. 14. Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed: or cruel or unusual punishment inflicted: all courts shall be open, and every man, for an injury done him in his lands, goods, person, or reputation, shall have remedy by due course of law, and right and justice administered, without sale, denial, or delay.

Art. 15. The person of a debtor, where there is not strong presumption of fraud, shall not be continued in prison after delivering up his estate for the benefit of his creditor, or creditors, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law.

Art. 16. The free communication of thoughts and opinions, is one of the inviolable rights of man; and every person may freely speak, write, print, and publish, on any subject, being responsible for the abuse of that liberty: but in prosecutions for the publication of papers investigating the official conduct of men in public capacity, the truth thereof may be given in evidence, as well as in personal actions of slander; and in all indictments for libels, the jury shall have the right to determine the law and the facts, under the direction of the court as in other cases.

Art. 17. No man's particular service shall be demanded, nor property taken, or applied to public use, without the consent of himself, or his representative; or without just compensation being made therefor, according to law.

Art. 18. The people have a right to assemble together, in a peaceable manner, for their common good: to instruct their representatives



and to apply to those invested with the powers of government, for redress of grievances, or for other proper purposes, by address or remonstrance.

Art. 19. Perpetuities and monopolies are contrary to the genius of a free government, and shall not be allowed.

Art. 20. The sure and certain defence of a free people, is a well regulated militia: and it shall be the duty of the legislature to enact such laws, as may be necessary to the organization of the militia of this State.

Art. 21. No soldier, in the time of peace, shall be quartered in the house, or within the inclosure of any individual, without the consent of the owner; nor in time of war, but in a manner prescribed by law.

Art. 22. No property qualifications shall be required to entitle a citizen to vote, or hold any office, in the gift of the people of this State.

Art. 23. All persons residing in Texas, at the date of this Constitution, except bonded servants, and other persons not liable to taxation by virtue of laws enacted under this Constitution, shall be regarded as citizens, and as being entitled to all the benefits of persons who emigrated to the country under the Colonization Law of 1825, and shall be acknowledged and admitted to all the rights and privileges of such immigrants.

Art. 24. All contracts and transfers of property, by will or otherwise, as well in relation to real as personal estate, which have been made in Texas heretofore, or which hereafter may be made, in good faith, by the parties, shall not be void for any want of form or technicality, but shall be construed and enforced according to the true intention of the parties.

Art. 25. Treason against the State shall consist only in levying war against it, or adhering to its enemies, giving them aid and comfort.—No person shall be convicted of treason, unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act.

Art. 26. The benefits of education, and of useful knowledge, generally diffused through a community, are essential to the preservation of a free government. The protection and advancement of these great objects are given in special and solemn charge to the legislature.—It shall be a particular duty of the government to patronize and cherish the interests of literature, of science, and the arts; and as soon as practicable, to establish schools, where the poor shall be taught gratis.

Art. 27. All elections in this State, shall be by ballot: and the manner thereof shall be prescribed by law.

Art. 28. All lands in this state, liable to taxation, held by deed, grant, concession, colonization law, or otherwise, shall be taxed according to their valuation.

Art. 29. The right of suffrage shall not be exercised by any person of insane mind, or who shall be a pauper, or supported by public or private charity, nor by any non-commissioned officer, soldier, seaman, or marine, in the service of the United Mexican States; nor by any person convicted of an infamous offence, hereafter committed.

Art. 30. No bank nor banking institution, nor office of discount and



deposit, nor other monied corporation, nor private banking establishment, shall ever exist during the continuance of this constitution.

Art. 31. All lands within the limits of Texas, at this date vacant, or not held agreeable to law, or to be located under genuine and bonafide grants, now issued and received by the grantee, or grantees, or otherwise provided for by this constitution, shall belong and constitute a fund for the use of the state; and be subject to the disposal of the legislature: Provided, that nothing contained in this article shall be so construed, as to prejudice the rights of citizens, colonists or settlers, who hold, or are entitled to acquire, under this constitution, lands by deed, grant, concession, or settlement right.

### LEGISLATURE.

Art. 32. The legislative authority of this State, shall be vested in a Legislature, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives, both dependent on the people.

Art. 33. The members of the legislature shall be chosen by the qualified electors, and shall serve for the term of two years from the day of commencement of the general election, and no longer.

Art. 34. The senators and representatives shall be chosen every two years, on the first Monday of August, and the day following.

Art. 35. Within three years from the meeting of the first legislature under this constitution, an enumeration of the population of the state shall be made agreeably to the mode which shall be prescribed by the legislature, and the apportionment and representation shall be regulated by law.

Art. 36. The number of senators shall, at the several periods of making the enumeration before mentioned, be fixed by the legislature, and apportioned among the precincts, formed as hereinafter directed, according to the number of taxable inhabitants in each, and shall never be less than one third, nor more than one half of the whole number of representatives.

Art. 37. Elections for representatives for the several precincts entitled to representation, shall be held at the places of holding their respective courts, or at such other places as the legislature may prescribe.

Art. 38. The senators shall be chosen by districts, to be formed by the legislature according to the number of taxable inhabitants in each, provided that no precinct shall be divided in forming a senatorial district.

Art. 39. The first three years after the adoption of this constitution, the legislature shall meet annually, on the first Monday of November; and thereafter it shall meet biennially, on the same day, and be held at such place as the legislature shall prescribe.

Art. 40. No person shall be eligible to a seat in the senate until he has arrived to the age of twenty-five years, nor in the house of representatives until he shall have arrived to the age of twenty-one years; he shall be a citizen of the state, and shall have resided within the same twelve months, and six months within the precinct, or district for which he is elected, immediately preceding the time of his election.



Art. 41. Every male inhabitant of the age of twenty-one years, who shall be a citizen of the state, and shall have resided for the last six months, immediately preceding the day of election, within the precinct, or district, shall enjoy the right of an elector.

Art. 42. the senate, at its meeting, shall elect a president pro tempore; and the house of representatives shall elect its speaker. Each house shall elect its own officers, and be judges of the qualifications and election of its members.

Art. 43. Each house may determine the rules of its proceedings; punish its members for disorderly behaviour, and with the concurrence of two-thirds, expel a member; but not a second time for the same offence; and shall have all other powers necessary for the legislature of a state.

Art. 44. Senators and representatives shall, in all cases except treason, felony, or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during the session of the legislature, and in going to and returning from the same.

Art. 45. Each house may punish, by imprisonment, any person not a member, who shall be guilty of disrespect to the house, by any disorderly or contemptuous behaviour in their presence;—Provided, that such imprisonment shall not be for a longer time than thirty days,

Art. 46. Bills may originate in either house, but may be afterwards amended or rejected by the other.

Art. 47. Every bill shall be read on three different days, and signed by the president of the senate, and speaker of the house representatives, before it becomes a law, unless the public safety should be endangered by delay.

Art. 48. After a bill has been rejected, no bill containing the same substance shall be passed into a law during that session.

Art. 49. The style of the laws of this state shall be—"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Texas."

Art 50 Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and publish them, except such parts as the welfare of the state may require to be kept secret; and the yeas and nays of the members, on any question, shall at the request of one-fourth of the members present, be entered on the journal.

Art. 51. The legislature shall have power to establish, from time to time, the salaries of all the officers of the state; and to regulate the compensation of its own members.

Art. 52. The doors of each house, and committees of the whole, shall be kept open, unless when the business before them require secrecy.

Art. 53. No money shall be drawn from the treasury but in pursuance of appropriation by law.

Art. 54. No person, who heretofore hath been, or hereafter may be a collector, or holder of public monies, shall have a seat in either house of the legislature of the state, until such person shall have accounted for, and paid into the treasury, all sums for which he may be liable.

Art. 55. No judge of any court of law, or equity, secretary of state, attorney general, register, clerk of any court of record, or person holding any office under the authority of the Mexican United States, shall have



a seat in the legislature of this state, nor shall any person in this state hold more than one lucrative office at one and the same time; Provided, that no appointment in the militia, or to the office of justice of the peace, so long as no salary is attached thereto, shall be considered a lucrative office.

Art. 56. If any member of the legislature is appointed to, or elected to, or accepts any other office than that of justice of the peace, trustee of a literary society, or commission in the militia, such appointment and acceptance shall be a vacation of his seat in the legislature; and no member thereof shall be eligible to hold any office, created by the legislature, during his term of service as a member.

Art. 57. Any member of either house of the legislature shall have liberty to dissent from, and protest against, any act or resolve which he may think injurious to the public, or to any individual, and have the reasons of his dissent entered on the journals.

Art. 58. The legislature shall have power to establish such a system of internal improvement as they may think proper.

Art. 59. The legislature shall have power to enact laws to impose taxes, and collect money for the use of the state; but no currency shall ever be made a lawful tender, except gold, silver and copper coin.

#### EXECUTIVE.

Art. 60. The Executive power shall be vested in a Chief Magistrate, who shall be styled the Governor of the State of Texas.

Art. 61. The Governor shall be elected by the qualified electors, at the time and place of choosing representatives for the legislature.— He shall hold his office for the term of two years from the time of his installation, and until a successor be duly appointed and qualified; but shall not be eligible for more than four years in any term of six years. He shall be a citizen of the United States of Mexico; shall be at least twenty-seven years of age, and shall have resided in Texas at least three years, next preceeding his election.

Art. 62. The returns of every election for governor and lieutenant governor shall be sealed up, and transmitted to the president of the senate pro tem. who shall open and publish them, in presence of both houses of the legislature. The person having the highest number of votes shall be governor. Should two or more have been candidates for the office, and two or more persons be equal and highest in number one of those who are equal and highest shall be chosen governor, by joint ballot of both houses; and in like manner, under similar circumstances, shall the lieutenant governor be chosen.

Art. 63. The governor shall, at stated times, receive for his services a compensation which shall be neither increased nor reduced during the term for which he shall have been elected.

Art. 64. The governor shall be commander in chief of the militia of the state; except when they shall be called into the service of the Mexican United States; but he shall not command personally in the field, unless he shall be advised so to do by resolution of the legislature; shall take care that the constitution of this state, the constitutive act, and the constitution of the Mexican United States, and the laws be faithfully



executed; shall communicate to the legislature at every session the condition of the state; and recommend such measures as he may deem expedient; he shall have power to convene the legislature, when, in his opinion, the interest of the state may require it; to grant reprieves and pardons, except in case of impeachment; to conduct all correspondence, or intercourse, with other states, and with the general government; and during the recess of the legislature, to fill, pro tempore, until the end of the next succeeding session, all vacancies in those offices which it may be the duty of the two houses, or of the executive and senate, to fill permanently.

Art. 65. Every bill which shall have passed both houses of the legislature, shall be presented to the governor; if he approve he shall sign it, but if not, he shall return it, with his objections, to the house in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the objections at large upon the journals, and proceed to reconsider it; if, after such reconsideration, a majority of the whole number elected to that house shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, with the objections, to the other house, by whom it shall likewise be reconsidered; if approved by a majority of the whole number elected to that house, it shall become a law; but in such cases, the votes of both houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the members voting for or against the bill, shall be entered on the journals of each house, respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the governor within five days, Sundays excepted, after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall be a law in like manner, as if he had signed it, unless the legislature by their adjournment, prevent its return, in which case it shall not be a law.

Art. 66. Every order, resolution, or vote to which the concurrence of both houses may be necessary, except on questions of adjournment, shall be presented to the governor, and before it shall take effect be approved by him; or being disapproved, shall be repassed by both houses, according to the rules and limitation prescribed in the case of a bill.

Art. 67. There shall be a Lieutenant Governor, who shall be elected at the same time, in the same manner, for the same term, and shall possess the same qualifications as the governor. The electors shall designate for whom they vote as governor, and for whom as lieutenant governor.

Art. 68. The lieutenant governor shall, ex officio, be president of the senate, and when there is an equal division in the senate, shall give the casting vote; and also, in joint voting of both houses.

Art. 69. When the office of governor shall become vacant by death, resignation, absence from the state, removal from office, refusal to qualify, impeachment, or otherwise, the lieutenant governor, or in case of like disability on his part, the president of the senate pro tempore; or if there be no president of the senate pro tem. the speaker of the house of representatives shall possess all the powers and discharge all the duties of governor; and shall receive for his services the like compensation to the end of the term, or until the disability of the governor be removed. Provided, that should the office become permanently vacant, within ten months from the beginning of the term, the person exercising the pow-



ers of governor, for the time being, shall, as may be, cause an election to be held to fill such vacancy, giving three months notice thereof.

Art. 70. There shall be a Secretary of State, appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent of the senate. He shall hold his office three years, and shall keep a register of all the official acts and proceedings of the governor, and perform such duties as may be enjoined upon him by law. He shall, as soon as may be, procure and keep a seal of state, with such emblems and devices as shall be directed by law, which shall not be subject to change.

Art. 71. A state treasurer shall be elected by joint vote of both houses who shall also discharge the duties of Auditor, until otherwise provided by law.

Art. 72. There shall be an ayuntamiento in each municipality. The powers and duties of the ayuntamientos, the number of members who are to compose them, and the mode of their election, shall be prescribed by law.

Art. 73. All commissions shall be in the name of "The State of Texas," be sealed with the state seal, signed by the governor, and attested by the secretary of state.

Art. 74. Sheriffs and Coroners shall be elected every two years, by the qualified electors; at the time and place of choosing representatives. Their duties shall be regulated by law, and they shall hold their office for two years, and until a successor shall be duly appointed and qualified, unless sooner removed for misdemeanor in office.

Art. 75. The governor shall nominate and appoint, with advice and consent of the senate, all officers whose offices are established by this constitution, and whose appointments are not herein otherwise provided for: Provided, however that the legislature shall have the right to prescribe the mode of appointment of all other officers to be established by law.

Art. 76. The governor shall make use of his private seal until a seal of the state shall be provided.

#### JUDICIARY.

Art. 77. The judicial power shall be vested in a supreme court, and inferior courts.

Art. 78. The State of Texas shall be divided into four judicial districts, in each of which there shall be appointed a district judge.

Art. 79. The said district judges shall compose the supreme court; a majority of whom shall form a quorum. The said judges shall hold their courts as district judges, and judges of the supreme court, at the time and places prescribed by law.

Art. 80. The legislature shall create and establish such inferior courts as may be convenient for the administration of justice.

Art. 81. The judges of the district and supreme courts, who shall be elected at the first session of the legislature, shall hold their offices for the term of three years, eligible for re-election; and their successors in office shall hold their office for the term of six years, eligible to re-election by the legislature every six years.



Art. 82. The judges, by virtue of their office, shall be conservators of the peace throughout the state. The style of all processes shall be, "The State of Texas;" all prosecutions shall be carried on "In the name, and by the authority of the State of Texas," and conclude, "against the peace and dignity of the State."

Art. 83. There shall be an attorney general for the state, and as many prosecuting attorneys as may hereafter be found necessary. Their duties, salaries, perquisites, and terms of service shall be determined by law.

Art. 84. The clerks of the districts and supreme courts shall be appointed by the judges of the respective courts,

Art. 85. The judges of the district and supreme courts shall receive fixed and adequate salaries, which shall be established by law.

Art. 86. The judges may be removed from office by a concurrent vote of both houses of the legislature: but two-thirds of the number present, must concur in such vote, and the causes of removal shall be entered on the journal of each. The judge against whom the legislature may be about to proceed, shall receive notice thereof, accompanied with a copy of the causes alleged for his removal, at least thirty days before the day on which either house of the legislature shall sit thereupon.

Art. 87. The judges may also be removed by impeachment.

Art. 88. The power of impeachment shall be vested in the house of representatives.

Art. 89. All impeachments shall be tried by the Senate: when acting for that purpose, the members shall be upon oath, and no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present.

Art. 90. The governor, and all civil officers shall be liable to impeachment for all misdemeanors in office: but judgment in such cases, shall not extend further than removal from office, and disqualification to hold any office of trust or profit, in this state. But the parties shall nevertheless, be liable and subject to indictment, trial and punishment according to law.

Art. 91. The judges of the district and supreme courts, and the attorney general, shall be at least twenty-five years of age, and shall be learned in the law.

Art. 92. Alcaldes and Comisarios shall be elected by the people; their duties, jurisdiction, number in each municipality, and fees, shall be determined by law.

Art. 93. The legislature is authorised to increase the number of judicial districts and district judges, whenever the necessity of the country requires it.

Art. 94. The legislature shall establish a separate supreme court, so soon as the condition of the state may require it.

Art. 95. The interpretation of the constitution and laws of this state, shall belong exclusively to the judiciary.

#### SCHEDULE.

Art. 96. The state of Texas shall include all the country formerly known as the province of Texas.

Art. 97. That no inconvenience may arise in our separation from Co.



ahuila, it is declared that all rights, actions, prosecutions, and contracts, shall continue as if no change had taken place, except in cases provided for in the body of this constitution.

Art. 98. All dues, fines, penalties, and forfeitures due and owing to the State of Coahuila and Texas, shall be collectable in the name, and for the use of Texas. All bonds for the performance of duties, shall be passed over to the first Governor of Texas, and his successors in office, for the use and benefit of the parties interested.

Art. 99. The authorities of the State of Coahuila and Texas shall fill their offices within the limits of Texas, and shall continue in the exercise of their respective duties until suspended under this constitution.

Art. 100. Until the first enumeration, as provided for by this constitution, the apportionment of representation to the legislature, shall be regulated by a resolution to be adopted by this constitution.

Art. 101. All officers or persons elected, or appointed to any office or place of trust, profit, or honor, in this state, before entering upon the duties of his office, or station, shall take the following oath:—"I A. B. do solemnly swear, that I will support the constitution of the United Mexican States, the constitutive act, and the constitution of this state, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of ———, according to law, to the best of my abilities.—So help me God."

Art. 102. The election of Senators and Representatives to the general congress, shall take place agreeably to the provisions of the Federal constitution of the United Mexican States; and laws to that effect, shall be passed by the legislature.

Art. 103. Whenever a majority of both houses of the legislature, may deem it necessary to amend this constitution, they shall recommend to the electors at the next election of members of the legislature, to vote for or against a convention, and if it shall appear, that a majority of all the electors of the state, voting for the members of the legislature, shall have voted for a convention, the legislature shall, at their next session, call a convention to consist of at least as many members as there may be in the legislature, to be elected at the same places, and in like manner as prescribed for the election of members of that body.

Art. 104. Until the first enumeration shall be made as described by this constitution, the senatorial districts shall be composed of the following precincts:

Bexar, shall be entitled to one senator.

Nueces, Goliad and Guadalupe Victoria, one senator,

Labaca, Matagorda, and Santa Anna, one senator.

Victoria, and Bolivar, one senator.

San Felipe, one senator.

Magnolia, San Jacinto, [west side] and precinct of San Jacinto, one senator.

New-Holland, Hidalgo, and Tenoxticlan, one senator.

Anahuac, Liberty and Cow Bayou, one senator.

Nacogdoches, one senator.

Ayish and Snow River, one senator.

Tennahaw and Sabine, one senator.



Art. 105. The number of representatives that each of the precincts, above enumerated, shall have in the first legislature, shall be determined by the number of votes given in at the first election, on the basis of one representative for every hundred voters, without counting fractions under one hundred. Provided, that each precinct shall have one representative, whatever may be the number of its voters. After all the votes are taken, and the polls are closed, the judges of the election shall declare the persons who have received the highest number of votes for representatives, to be duly elected, agreeably to the basis above established, and shall issue certificates to such persons accordingly. In case of a tie between two or more, it shall be decided by lot, by the judges.

Art. 106. All powers, or grants of power, rights, or privileges, and immunities, not expressly given or granted by this constitution, are reserved to, and shall remain with, the People of the State, and can only be divested, or delegated, by amendment of this Constitution.

DONE in the Town of San Felipe de Austin, in Convention of the People of Texas, by means of their chosen Delegates, on the thirteenth day of April, in the Year of our Lord, eighteen hundred and thirty-three.

WILLIAM H. WHARTON.

Member and President of the Convention.

John P. Coles,  
Thomas S. Saul,  
Joseph B. Chance,  
Charles Baird,  
Nestor Clay,  
David G. Burnett,  
J. G. Wright,  
A. Farmer,  
Jesse Grimes,  
Francis Holland,  
Jared E. Groce,  
Eli Mitchell,  
George W. Davis,  
Joseph M'Coy,  
Green De Witt,  
Jesse Woodbury,  
Phillip A. Sublett,  
Elisha Roberts,  
A. E. C. Johnson,  
Stephen F. Slaughter,  
John English,  
William English,  
Robert H. Williams,  
Charles Wilson,  
Ira Ingram,  
Thomas M. Duke,  
Leonard W. Groce,  
THOMAS HASTINGS, Secretary.


Charltona Thompson,  
Patrick C. Jack,  
Samuel Whiting,  
William Harden,  
William Shaw,  
George Sutherland,  
Gail Borden, Jr.  
Wyly Martin.  
Luke Lesassier,  
James B. Miller,  
E. Roddy,  
Bartlett Sims,  
Edward Burleson,  
Andrew Rabb,  
Thomas J. Gazley,  
James C. Neill,  
Samuel Houston,  
Thomas Hastings,  
William Robinson,  
James J. Ross,  
Eli Mercer,  
J. Wright,  
Stephen F. Austin,  
R. R. Royall,  
Branch T. Archer,  
R. M. Williamson,  
Adolphus Sterne.

James H. Brown

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### EXPLANATION.

 The paragraph following has been omitted at the proper place. It should be article 60, and follow article 59, under the head of LEGISLATURE. In the copy it stood as 85.

Art.. 85. The existing law of the State of Coahuila and Texas, when this constitution goes into effect, shall continue in force until altered, or abolished, by the legislature; Provided, however, that the legislature shall never adopt any system or code of laws by general reference to said system or code, but in all cases shall specify the several provisions of the laws it may enact.