

Implementation Plan for Publishing the Constitution of the State of Texas in Compliance with the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act



Texas Legislative Council
September 1, 2020

Revised to Add Appendices B and C
February 15, 2022



DAN PATRICK
Lieutenant Governor
Joint Chair

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DENNIS BONNEN
Speaker of the House
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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Dan Patrick
Lieutenant Governor of Texas
The Honorable Dennis Bonnen
Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives

FROM: Jeff Archer
Executive Director

DATE: September 1, 2020

SUBJECT: Implementation Plan for the Publication of the Texas Constitution under the Texas Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act

I. INTRODUCTION

[Chapter 159 \(H.B. 402\), Acts of the 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019 \(Subchapter E, Chapter 2051, Government Code\)](#),¹ establishes the Texas Legislative Council (the council) as the official publisher of the Constitution of the State of Texas and requires the council to meet certain authentication, preservation, and distribution requirements. Pursuant to SECTION 3 of H.B. 402, the council has prepared this implementation plan.

II. PUBLISHING OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF TEXAS²

The current Texas Constitution was adopted at the state constitutional convention of 1875 and ratified by the people of Texas in 1876.³ In 1925, the Vernon Law Book Company published an official version of the Texas civil statutes, which included a copy of the state constitution whose content was verified by the publishing company.^{4,5} Referred to as "Vernon's," this and the

¹ <https://capitol.texas.gov/BillLookup/History.aspx?LegSess=86R&Bill=HB402> (last visited Aug. 6, 2020).

² The council expresses its appreciation to the Legislative Reference Library of Texas for its assistance in completing the historical portion of this memorandum.

³ Ericson, Joe E. and Wallace, Ernest, "Constitution of 1876," Texas State Historical Association, <https://tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/mhc07#:~:text=The%20Constitution%20of%201876%20is,basic%20organic%20law%20of%20Texas> (last visited Aug. 6, 2020).

⁴ "Legislation," rev. by Linda Gardner, *A Reference Guide to Texas Law and Legal History*, edited by Karl T. Gruben and James E. Hambleton, Austin, TX: Butterworth Legal Publishers, 1987, pp. 17-18.

⁵ [Tex. Const. interp. commentary \(Vernon 1925\), p. xviii.](#)

subsequent versions of the 1925 compilation became the standard legal reference for most legal practitioners.⁶

The Texas Legislative Council was created by statute in 1949 and began operating in 1950.⁷ From the beginning, the council has assisted the Texas Legislature in drafting and adopting all manner of legislation, including proposed constitutional amendments. Like most other practitioners, the council used Vernon's as its source for statutory and constitutional language. Indeed, for decades, the council's process for drafting legislation often involved making a photocopy of the Vernon's version of an existing provision of law and making handwritten changes or inserts to the photocopy to ensure the accuracy of the law being amended. In addition, the council and Vernon's publishers acted as partners to revise and improve the published version of the state's constitution and statutes. After the council used Vernon's as the basis to draft legislation that would become adopted constitutional amendments or statutes, Vernon's publishers incorporated the council's amended text into the Vernon's publication; the council, in turn, used the updated Vernon's to draft new legislation.

With the advent of word processing and digital publishing tools, the council began to maintain its own digital copy of the constitution and statutes separate from Vernon's. This version was stripped of the publisher's annotations and formatted in a manner that the council's staff and legislative clients preferred. This copy remained, however, a reformatted version of the law as passed by the legislature and updated by the editors of Vernon's. In an effort to make this version more available to its legislative clients, the council began publishing its version of Texas laws on the Internet in the mid-1990s.⁸

In 2006, the council determined that it was capable of creating and updating its own constitutional and statutory database, and that doing so was desirable for purposes of efficiency and editorial control. So, beginning with laws enacted and constitutional amendments ratified in 2005, the council began independently updating and publishing the Texas statutes and constitution without involving Vernon's in the process.⁹ The publicly available website that resulted is called Texas Constitution and Statutes (TCAS).

Taking on this responsibility was no small task. The council had relied on Vernon's because updating the code and constitution is a complex process. Since the council does not have the authority to revise or change legislation after it has been finally passed by the legislature, the council's legal, document production, and information technology teams must work in close partnership to carefully update the council's constitutional and statutory databases. Conflicting

⁶ Gardner, p. 18.

⁷ [Chapter 324 \(S.B. 316\), Acts of the 51st Legislature, Regular Session, 1949.](#)

⁸"Copyright does not vest in works that are ... created by ... legislators ... in the course of their ... legislative duties." [Georgia v. Public.Resource.Org, Inc.](#), 140 U.S. 1498 at 1508 (2020).

⁹ TCAS can be found at <http://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/>.

additions and amendments must be harmonized where possible and set out separately when necessary. Each change must be carefully scrutinized to ensure it accurately reflects the law.

In order to support its work to publish the constitution and statutes, the council has developed a highly sophisticated information technology solution, Automated Statute Update (ASU), to ensure that the council's constitutional and statutory provisions are current. The ASU system is a custom software solution written by the council that manages the provisions in an SQL relational database maintained on secured council servers.¹⁰ The constitutional and statutory database that is managed by ASU flows into numerous council systems, including TCAS, and the council uses automated software tools to determine on a daily basis whether the database must be updated to accommodate any nonstandard effective dates of constitutional or statutory provisions.

The council is committed to protecting ASU information and consistently making it available to the legislature and the public. Only authorized council staff have the access necessary to change ASU data. All changes that are made to ASU data are reviewed by multiple council employees, including legal editors responsible for the statutes and constitutional text, and logs are maintained to track any changes to the data. The constitutional and statutory database is backed up nightly and stored off-site for disaster recovery purposes. Finally, the council commits substantial resources to the goal of ensuring that all of its applications, including TCAS, are available at all times to the legislature and the public with the exception of short maintenance interruptions.

III. THE UNIFORM ELECTRONIC LEGAL MATERIAL ACT

The national Uniform Law Commission adopted the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act (UELMA) in 2011.¹¹ Since then, 21 states, including Texas, have adopted some variation of UELMA.¹² UELMA is intended to create "an outcomes-based, technology-neutral framework for providing online legal material with the same level of trustworthiness traditionally provided by publication in a law book."¹³ UELMA requires that official electronic legal material be authenticated by providing a method to determine that it is unaltered, preserved either in electronic or print form, and accessible for use by the public on a permanent basis.¹⁴ If one state adopts

¹⁰ SQL stands for "Structured Query Language." SQL is a programming language used for interacting with relational database management systems. A relational database is a collection of data arranged in a set of tables with columns and rows, supplemented by unique identifiers. This arrangement allows data to be accessed in many different ways without reorganizing the database tables.

¹¹ "A Few Facts about the Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act," Uniform Law Commission, <https://www.uniformlaws.org/HigherLogic/System/DownloadDocumentFile.ashx?DocumentFileKey=181e78eb-69a2-5ac5-1ba8-4aebb19c94cc&forceDialog=0> (last visited Aug. 6, 2020).

¹² *Id.*

¹³ *Id.*

¹⁴ *Id.*

UELMA, the legal material the state designates as official is presumed accurate in another state that has also adopted UELMA.¹⁵

Texas' version of UELMA was enacted by [Chapter 159 \(H.B. 402\), Acts of the 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019 \(Subchapter E, Chapter 2051, Government Code\)](#). UELMA establishes the Texas Legislative Council as the official publisher of the state constitution and requires the council to ensure the integrity of the electronic constitution, provide for backup and disaster recovery of the electronic constitution, ensure the constitution's continuing usability, and ensure that the electronic constitution is reasonably available for use by the public on a permanent basis.¹⁶ UELMA requires the council to consider the standards and practices of other jurisdictions; the most recent standards regarding authentication, preservation, and security of and public access to legal material in an electronic record and other electronic records as adopted by national standard-setting bodies; the needs of users of legal material in electronic records; the views of certain interested persons; and, to the extent practicable, the methods and technologies for the authentication, preservation, and security of and public access to legal material that are compatible with the methods and technologies used by official publishers in other states that have adopted a law that is substantially similar to the Texas version of UELMA.¹⁷

UELMA permits the council to designate either an electronic or nonelectronic copy of the state constitution as the official version of the legal material.¹⁸ The council does print a limited number of paper copies of the state constitution for internal reference purposes, but designating TCAS as official would make the official version of the Texas Constitution more readily available. UELMA applies to legal material first published after January 1, 2021, and expressly does not require the material to be authenticated until after it takes effect.¹⁹ This means that, in the likely event that a state constitutional referendum passes in November 2021 and the related constitutional amendment takes effect in 2022, the council must be prepared to electronically publish an authenticated version of the constitution not later than January 2022.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION

The implementation of UELMA will consist of three parts. In part one, the council will ensure the integrity of the council's current version of the constitution. The second part consists of implementing UELMA's authentication requirement. The final part of the council's implementation plan consists of providing for continual support, updating, and improvement of the constitution as technology changes and the constitution is amended.

¹⁵ "The Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act: A Summary," Uniform Law Commission, <https://www.uniformlaws.org/HigherLogic/System/DownloadDocumentFile.ashx?DocumentFileKey=4e1e4b71-3d04-1f02-7e4a-9750accc8d1c&forceDialog=0> (last visited Aug. 6, 2020).

¹⁶ SECTION 1, [Chapter 159 \(H.B. 402\), Acts of the 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019](#).

¹⁷ *Id.*

¹⁸ *Id.*

¹⁹ *Id.*

A. Ensuring Integrity

Texas legal practitioners have relied on the Vernon's version of the constitution without significant incident for nearly a century, so it is exceedingly unlikely that there are any substantive differences between the council's version, which as described above is derived from Vernon's, and the originally adopted constitution and subsequent amendments. Regardless, UELMA requires the council to ensure the integrity of the version of the constitution published by the council.²⁰ Consequently, the council has undertaken the task of proofreading its current version of the constitution by comparing it to images of the signed, enrolled version of the 1876 constitution and images of the signed, enrolled version of each amendment to the constitution maintained by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, the Legislative Reference Library of Texas, and the council's own collection. The signed, enrolled versions of these documents will be used because they are considered to be "conclusive evidence as to the [legislative] act and of its passage."²¹ The council will also use its regularly updated compilation of all prior amendments to the constitution, [*Amendments to the Texas Constitution Since 1876*](#), in analyzing the accuracy of the council's constitutional text. The verification process will be concluded before January 2021.

Another issue to consider regarding the integrity of the official constitution is that the public must be aware of and able to cite to the official version. The council will add information to TCAS to ensure that the public is aware of TCAS's official status and adopt a recommended citation style to help secondary users of the official version of the constitution know what is being referenced. These changes will be implemented when TCAS is updated in January 2022 in full compliance with UELMA.

Finally, UELMA requires the council to provide for backup and disaster recovery of the legal material covered by the act, and the act requires the council to ensure the continuing integrity, usability, preservation, and availability of the material. As described in Part II above, the council already has a robust quality control process for updating and making editorial changes to the databases where the authenticated constitution will reside. In addition, the council already has a compliant system for controlling access to and backing up these databases. As noted above, the council already commits a large number of resources to the goal of ensuring that all of its applications, including TCAS, are available at all times to the legislature and the public with the exception of short maintenance interruptions.

²⁰ *Id.*

²¹ *Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure* 483 (National Conference of State Legislatures in cooperation with the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries, 2010). *See also Association of Texas Professional Educators v. Kirby*, 788 S.W.2d 827, 829 (Tex. 1990).

B. Authentication

An important feature of UELMA is that it is not enough to simply internally ensure the integrity of the official legal materials being published. UELMA also requires the publisher to provide a method by which a person viewing the materials is able to authenticate the legal material.²² This makes the material useful in situations in which having a certified copy of the legal material is required or preferred.

After conducting extensive research and considering all of the standards described in H.B. 402, the council has determined that an authentication system based on portable document format (PDF) documents is the solution most suited to users' needs and most cost-effective for implementation. Originally developed by Adobe, Inc., in the 1990s, PDF is a royalty-free standard for electronic documents that has been adopted by the International Organization for Standardization, a large and well-respected developer of voluntary international software standards.²³ PDF is one of the most popular document formats, the Adobe Acrobat PDF reader application is readily available for download for free, and all major supported Internet browsers feature integrated PDF readers. This popularity is likely the reason that a robust market exists for services that verify publicly available PDF documents as authentic. For these reasons, several official publishers in other states that have adopted UELMA have already adopted PDF-based UELMA solutions.²⁴

Authenticating the official version of the Texas Constitution will consist of several steps. First, the council will create a PDF version of each constitutional provision that the council intends to authenticate. Then, the council will securely retrieve a digital signature from a digital signature provider selected by the council, apply the signature to the PDF, and embed into the PDF an encrypted hash digest that is unique to the signed PDF.²⁵ After this process is completed, the council will send the hash digest to the digital signature provider in order to facilitate independent authentication of the signature. Finally, the council will publish the signed PDF in TCAS. This authentication system will be deployed at the same time that the Texas Constitution is updated in TCAS in January 2022.

²² H.B. 402, *supra*.

²³ "ISO 32000-1:2008 Document management--Portable document format--Part 1: PDF 1.7," International Organization for Standardization, <https://www.iso.org/standard/51502.html> (last visited Aug. 6, 2020).

²⁴ "The Uniform Electronic Legal Material Act: Technology Options for Authentication and Preservation," Uniform Law Commission, <https://www.uniformlaws.org/HigherLogic/System/DownloadDocumentFile.ashx?DocumentFileKey=d714f2c4-c9bf-b3ef-b2f1-cb6cd889fbc1&forceDialog=0> (last visited Aug. 6, 2020).

²⁵ A "hash digest" is a unique string of alphanumeric characters that describes a document, in some ways similar to a person's fingerprint, and allows the comparison of two documents to determine if they are identical. The signature is another method by which a provision of the constitution can be verified as coming from the authentic publisher.

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The process for determining the authenticity of a constitutional provision is very simple from the perspective of a TCAS user: an authenticated provision of the council's published PDF will display a visible badge at the top indicating that the PDF has been verified.²⁶ In addition, any downloaded copy of the PDF cannot be edited. Finally, many users will also encounter a band displayed near the top of the document; clicking on the band will reveal additional information describing the document's authenticity.

C. Commitment to UELMA's Success

After taking the steps described above, the council will incorporate the UELMA mission into its permanent information technology planning process. The council will budget the necessary resources to ensure that the council's official constitution continues to be updated, usable, verifiable, and available for use by the public on a permanent basis.

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Attachment

²⁶ An example of how the authenticated provision of the constitution will appear is attached as Appendix A.

APPENDIX A.

EXAMPLE OF AUTHENTICATED PROVISION OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION



AUTHENTICATED
ELECTRONIC LEGAL MATERIAL

THE TEXAS CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 2. THE POWERS OF GOVERNMENT

Sec. 1. SEPARATION OF POWERS OF GOVERNMENT AMONG THREE DEPARTMENTS. The powers of the Government of the State of Texas shall be divided into three distinct departments, each of which shall be confided to a separate body of magistracy, to wit: Those which are Legislative to one; those which are Executive to another, and those which are Judicial to another; and no person, or collection of persons, being of one of these departments, shall exercise any power properly attached to either of the others, except in the instances herein expressly permitted.

APPENDIX B: Discrepancies Between Constitutional Provisions as Originally Enacted and the Database Maintained by the Texas Legislative Council in 2020²⁷

As discussed in the body of this report, the council determined that it was advisable to ensure that the portion of the council's online Texas Constitution and Statutes (TCAS) database containing the constitution was as close to the original text as possible. To that end, the council obtained copies of the enrolled versions of the original 1876 constitution and the resolutions that were used to subsequently amend the constitution.²⁸ The council's legal editorial staff compared these original documents to the council's then-extant TCAS database.

More than 80 discrepancies from the original texts were found in TCAS. The vast majority of the discrepancies reflect nonsubstantive differences in capitalization or punctuation styles. Some discrepancies reflect Anglicized word spellings; a handful are clear and obvious misspellings; a very small number of discrepancies could be considered to be substantive deviations in word choice or punctuation.²⁹

In publishing its official text of the state constitution, the council has incorporated the original text for nearly all of the identified discrepancies in an effort to be as faithful as possible to the original text. The council declined to follow the original text in only a handful of situations, primarily involving the superfluous underlining or italicization of Latinate words. These choices were made because of their nonsubstantive nature and for purposes of internal consistency. If the legislature desires to amend the constitution to address any of the identified discrepancies, the council's staff would be happy to assist.

The following matrix describes each discrepancy and indicates whether it was incorporated into the council's official online Texas Constitution publication. For the foreseeable future, the council will include within TCAS explanatory text and links to the original documents.

²⁷ The Texas Legislative Council added Appendix B to this report on February 15, 2022.

²⁸ The Texas State Library and Archives Commission generously provided the council with high-resolution electronic copies of the original constitution and several enrolled joint resolutions not already in the council's possession.

²⁹ The council has not researched when these discrepancies were introduced into the unofficial versions of the Texas Constitution. As discussed in the body of this report, numerous publishers have produced unofficial constitutional texts over the last century and a half. It seems likely that, whenever these discrepancies were introduced, each subsequent publisher simply assumed that the prior publisher had accurately reproduced the text. The council is unaware of any of these discrepancies having been identified before.

	Type of Issue	Original Version	Unofficial TCAS Version	Original Text Incorporated Into Official TCAS Version?
Article I				
Sec. 3	Spelling	All freemen	All free men	Yes
Sec. 8	Capitalization	under the direction of the Court ,	under the direction of the court ,	Yes
Sec. 10	Spelling	the accused shall hav a speedy public trial	the accused shall have a speedy public trial	Yes
Sec. 10	Punctuation	He shall not be compelled to give evidence against himself and shall have the right of being heard	He shall not be compelled to give evidence against himself, and shall have the right of being heard	Yes
Sec. 10	Punctuation	no person shall be held to answer for a criminal offense. unless on an indictment	no person shall be held to answer for a criminal offense, unless on an indictment	Yes
Sec. 10	Spelling	penetentiary	penitentiary	Yes
Sec. 11	Spelling	unless for capital offences	unless for capital offenses	Yes
Sec. 12	Capitalization	The writ of Habeas Corpus	The writ of habeas corpus	Yes
Sec. 14	Spelling	No person, for the same offence,	No person, for the same offense,	Yes
Sec. 14	Punctuation	shall be twice put in jeopardy of life or liberty, nor shall	shall be twice put in jeopardy of life or liberty; nor shall	Yes
Sec. 14	Spelling and punctuation	put upon trial for the same offence, after a verdict	put upon trial for the same offense after a verdict	Yes
Sec. 16	Formatting	<u>ex post facto</u>	ex post facto	No
Sec. 23	Spelling	lawful defence of himself or the State	lawful defense of himself or the State	Yes
Sec. 29	Spelling	we declare that every thing	we declare that everything	Yes

	Type of Issue	Original Version	Unofficial TCAS Version	Original Text Incorporated Into Official TCAS Version?
Article II				
Sec. 1	Capitalization, punctuation	magistracy, to wit: those which are Legislative to one, those which are Executive to another,	magistracy, to wit: Those which are Legislative to one; those which are Executive to another,	Yes
Article III				
Sec. 11	Spelling	second time for the same offence	second time for the same offense	Yes
Sec. 19	Capitalization	No judge of any Court ,	No judge of any court ,	Yes
Sec. 19	Capitalization	Clerk of any Court of Record	clerk of any court of record	Yes
Sec. 26	Capitalization	entitled to one or more representatives , such representative or representatives	entitled to one or more Representatives , such Representative or Representatives	Yes
Sec. 27	Spelling	througout	throughout	Yes
Sec. 37	Capitalization	reported from a Committee	reported from a committee	Yes
Sec. 41	Formatting	viva voce	viva voce	No
Sec. 49-d	Spelling	wastewater	waste water	Yes
Sec. 49-d	Different word	If storage facilities are required for a term of years, such contracts shall contain provisions for renewal that will protect the state's investment.	If storage facilities are acquired for a term of years, such contracts shall contain provisions for renewal that will protect the state's investment.	Yes
Sec. 49-d-7	Different word	administering the proceedings of bonds	administering the proceeds of bonds	Yes
Sec. 49-d-7	Different word	for the purposes of the subsection	for the purposes of this subsection	Yes

	Type of Issue	Original Version	Unofficial TCAS Version	Original Text Incorporated Into Official TCAS Version?
Article III				
Sec. 51-a	Punctuation	The maximum amount paid out of state funds for assistance grants , to or on behalf of needy dependent children and their caretakers shall not exceed one percent of the state budget.	The maximum amount paid out of state funds for assistance grants to or on behalf of needy dependent children and their caretakers shall not exceed one percent of the state budget.	Yes
Article IV				
Sec. 3	Capitalization	The returns of every election for said Executive Officers	The returns of every election for said executive officers	Yes
Sec. 14	Capitalization	In such case he shall append to the Bill , at the time of signing it,	In such case he shall append to the bill , at the time of signing it,	Yes
Sec. 19	Capitalization	The Seal of the State shall be a Star of five points	The Seal of the State shall be a star of five points	Yes
Sec. 20	Capitalization	sealed with the State seal	sealed with the State Seal	Yes
Article V				
Sec. 3	Punctuation	Its jurisdiction shall be coextensive	Its jurisdiction shall be co-extensive	Yes
Sec. 10	Capitalization	In the trial of all causes in the district courts ,	In the trial of all causes in the District Courts ,	Yes

	Type of Issue	Original Version	Unofficial TCAS Version	Original Text Incorporated Into Official TCAS Version?
Article V				
Sec. 24	Capitalization	County judges , county attorneys, clerks of the district and county courts , justices of the peace, constables, and other county officers, may be removed by the judges of the district courts	County Judges , county attorneys, clerks of the District and County Courts , justices of the peace, constables, and other county officers, may be removed by the Judges of the District Courts	Yes
Sec. 31	Capitalization and formatting established by legislature	SJR 14, 69R, adds new Sec. 31 with a heading: " Section 31. Court administration and rule-making authority "	Sec. 31. COURT ADMINISTRATION AND RULES; ACTION ON MOTION FOR REHEARING BY SUPREME COURT.	Yes
Article VI				
Sec. 2	Capitalization	who is a resident of this state shall be deemed a qualified voter	who is a resident of this State shall be deemed a qualified voter	Yes
Article VII				
Sec. 10	Capitalization	The Legislature shall as soon as practicable establish	The legislature shall as soon as practicable establish	Yes
Sec. 10	Punctuation	"The University of Texas",	"The University of Texas,"	Yes
Sec. 11	Different word	shall be invested in bonds of the United States, the State of Texas, or counties of said State, or in School Bonds of municipalities, or in bonds of any city of this State	shall be invested in bonds of the United States, the State of Texas, or counties of said State, or in School Bonds or municipalities, or in bonds of any city of this State	Yes

	Type of Issue	Original Version	Unofficial TCAS Version	Original Text Incorporated Into Official TCAS Version?
Article VII				
Sec. 11	Different word	provided, that the one-tenth of the alternate Sections of the lands granted to railroads	provided, that the one-tenth of the alternate Section of the lands granted to railroads	Yes
Sec. 11	Punctuation	by an Act of the Legislature of February 11, 1858, entitled, "An Act to establish the University of Texas ",	by an Act of the Legislature of February 11, 1858, entitled, "An Act to establish the University of Texas ,"	Yes
Sec. 11a	Punctuation	nor shall more than five per cent (5%) of the voting stock of any one (1) corporation be owned ; provided, further, that stocks	nor shall more than five per cent (5%) of the voting stock of any one (1) corporation be owned : provided, further, that stocks	Yes
Sec. 13	Capitalization	established by an act of the Legislature	established by an Act of the Legislature	Yes
Sec. 13	Punctuation	for instruction in Agriculture, the Mechanic Arts, and the Natural Sciences connected therewith , And the Legislature shall at its next session,	for instruction in Agriculture, the Mechanic Arts, and the Natural Sciences connected therewith . And the Legislature shall at its next session,	Yes
Sec. 15	Capitalization	as is provided for the sale and investment of the permanent University Fund	as is provided for the sale and investment of the permanent University fund	Yes
Sec. 16	Punctuation	All land mentioned in Sections 11, 12 and 15 of Article VII,	All land mentioned in Sections 11, 12 , and 15 of Article VII,	Yes

	Type of Issue	Original Version	Unofficial TCAS Version	Original Text Incorporated Into Official TCAS Version?
Article VII				
Sec. 16	Extra word	shall be subject to taxation for county purposes	shall be subject to the taxation for county purposes	Yes
Sec. 18	Punctuation	shall be appropriated to the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System, which shall have the authority	shall be appropriated to the Board of Regents of The Texas A&M University System which shall have the authority	Yes
Article VIII				
Sec. 1-d	Punctuation	Until paid, there shall be a lien	Until paid there shall be a lien	Yes
Sec. 9	Formatting	Eighty Cents (80¢)	Eighty Cents (\$.80)	Yes
Sec. 9	Formatting	Fifteen Cents (15¢)	Fifteen Cents (\$.15)	Yes
Sec. 10	Capitalization	from the payment of taxes levied for State or County purposes	from the payment of taxes levied for State or county purposes	Yes
Sec. 15	Spelling	belonging to any delinquent tax payer	belonging to any delinquent taxpayer	Yes
Sec. 17	Punctuation	shall not deprive the Legislature of the power to require other subjects or objects to be taxed in such manner as may be, consistent with the principles	shall not deprive the Legislature of the power to require other subjects or objects to be taxed in such manner as may be consistent with the principles	Yes
Article IX				
Sec. 9	Formatting	seventy-five cents (75¢)	seventy-five cents (\$.75)	Yes
Sec. 12	Formatting	Seventy-Five Cents (75¢)	Seventy-Five Cents (\$.75)	Yes

	Type of Issue	Original Version	Unofficial TCAS Version	Original Text Incorporated Into Official TCAS Version?
Article IX				
Sec. 13	Punctuation	in providing for the creation, establishment, maintenance , and operation of a hospital district	in providing for the creation, establishment, maintenance and operation of a hospital district	Yes
Article XI				
Sec. 1	Capitalization	The several Counties of this State are	The several counties of this State are	Yes
Sec. 8	Capitalization	The Counties and Cities on the Gulf Coast	The counties and cities on the Gulf Coast	Yes
Sec. 8	Capitalization	from those otherwise prosperous localities, The Legislature is especially authorized	from those otherwise prosperous localities, the Legislature is especially authorized	Yes
Sec. 8	Capitalization	the construction of Sea Walls, or Breakwaters,	the construction of sea walls, or breakwaters,	Yes
Sec. 9	Capitalization	Fire engines	fire engines	Yes
Sec. 9	Spelling	benifit	benefit	Yes
Sec. 11	Capitalization	are subject to Section 65(b), Article XVI, of this constitution	are subject to Section 65(b), Article XVI, of this Constitution	Yes
Article XII				
Sec. 1	Capitalization	Private Corporation	private corporation	Yes
Sec. 2	Capitalization	Private Corporations	private corporations	Yes
Article XIV				
Sec. 1	Capitalization	which shall be at the Seat of Government, where all Land Titles	which shall be at the seat of government, where all land titles	Yes

	Type of Issue	Original Version	Unofficial TCAS Version	Original Text Incorporated Into Official TCAS Version?
Article XIV				
Sec. 1	Capitalization	may establish such subordinate Offices	may establish such subordinate offices	Yes
Article XV				
Sec. 4	Spelling	Judgement in cases of impeachment	Judgment in cases of impeachment	Yes
Sec. 4	Punctuation	A. Party convicted on impeachment shall also be subject to indictment trial and punishment	A party convicted on impeachment shall also be subject to indictment, trial and punishment	Yes
Sec. 5	Punctuation	The Governor may make a provisional appointment to fill the vacancy, occasioned by the suspension of an officer	The Governor may make a provisional appointment to fill the vacancy occasioned by the suspension of an officer	Yes
Sec. 6	Capitalization	Any Judge of the District Courts of the State // perform his duties as Judge // oaths taken before some Judge of a court of record of not less than ten lawyers, practicing in the courts held by such Judge,	Any judge of the District Courts of the State // perform his duties as judge // oaths taken before some judge of a court of record of not less than ten lawyers, practicing in the courts held by such judge,	Yes
Sec. 8	Punctuation	provided however, that the cause or causes for which such removal, shall be required, shall be stated at length	provided, however, that the cause or causes for which such removal shall be required, shall be stated at length	Yes
Sec. 8	Capitalization	shall be notified to the Judge so intended to be removed	shall be notified to the judge so intended to be removed	Yes

	Type of Issue	Original Version	Unofficial TCAS Version	Original Text Incorporated Into Official TCAS Version?
Article XVI				
Sec. 25	Spelling	commission merchant, factor, agent, or middle man of any kind,	commission merchant, factor, agent, or middleman of any kind,	Yes
Sec. 41	Capitalization	or member of the legislature	or member of the Legislature	Yes
Sec. 41	Capitalization	Executive or Judicial Officer	executive or judicial officer	Yes
Sec. 41	Spelling	thing aforesaid for annother	thing aforesaid for another	Yes
Sec. 52	Spelling	so long as the surviver may elect	so long as the survivor may elect	Yes
Sec. 59	Spelling	semi-arid	semiarid	Yes
Article XVII				
Sec. 1	Different word	officers and departments	offices and departments	Yes

APPENDIX C: Citing to the Official Version of the Texas Constitution³⁰

The council recommends the following format when citing to the Texas Constitution:

"Section [section number], Article [article number in roman numerals], Texas Constitution (Tex. Official)"

A citation to the official version of the first section of the third article of the Texas Constitution would therefore appear as follows:

"Section 1, Article III, Texas Constitution (Tex. Official)"

A recommended citation will appear in the header of each authenticated constitutional provision.

³⁰ The Texas Legislative Council added Appendix C to this report on February 15, 2022.