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## DIGEST

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John Smith

HB No. 601

Present constitution provides that the funds, credit, property, or things of value of the state or any political subdivision shall not be loaned, pledged, or donated to or for any person, association, or corporation, public or private.

Present constitution also provides that nothing in present constitution shall prevent the following:

- (1) Use of public funds for programs of social welfare for the aid and support of the needy.
- (2) Contributions of public funds to pension and insurance programs for the benefit of public employees.
- (3) Pledge of public funds, credit, property, or things of value for public purposes with respect to the issuance of bonds or other evidences of indebtedness to meet public obligations as provided by law.
- (4) Return of certain property, including mineral rights, to former owners.
- (5) Acquisition of stock by any institution of higher education in exchange for any intellectual property.
- (6) Donation of abandoned or blighted housing property by a municipality or parish to a nonprofit organization.
- (7) Deduction of certain taxes concerning blighted property to be renovated.
- (8) Cooperative endeavors for a public purpose.

Proposed constitutional amendment retains present constitution and adds that nothing in present constitution shall prevent the donation or exchange of surplus property between or among agencies of the state or political subdivisions whose primary functions involve public safety.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the gubernatorial primary election in 1999.

(Adds Const. Art. VII, §14(E))