A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, further providing for absentee ballots. PERMITTING THE USE OF SUPPRESSED VOLUNTARY ADMISSIONS OR CONFESSIONS TO IMPEACH A DEFENDANT'S CREDIBILITY.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby resolves as follows:

Section 1. The following amendment to the Constitution of Pennsylvania is proposed in accordance with Article XI:

That section 14, Article VII be amended to read:


The Legislature shall, by general law, provide a manner in which, and the time and place at which, qualified electors who may, on the occurrence of any election, be absent from the State or county of their residence, because their duties, occupation or business require them to be elsewhere or who, on the occurrence of any election, are unable to attend at their proper polling places because of illness or physical disability or who
can not vote because of election day duties, in the case of a
county employe, may vote, and for the return and canvass of
their votes in the election district in which they respectively
reside.

THAT SECTION 9 OF ARTICLE I BE AMENDED TO READ:

§ 9. RIGHTS OF ACCUSED IN CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS.

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, TO MEET THE WITNESSES FACE TO
FACE, TO HAVE COMPULSORY PROCESS FOR OBTAINING WITNESSES IN HIS
FAVOR, AND, IN PROSECUTIONS BY INDICTMENT OR INFORMATION, A
SPEEDY PUBLIC TRIAL BY AN IMPARTIAL JURY OF THE VICINAGE; HE
CANNOT BE COMPELLED TO GIVE EVIDENCE AGAINST HIMSELF, NOR CAN HE
BE DEPRIVED OF HIS LIFE, LIBERTY OR PROPERTY, UNLESS BY THE
JUDGMENT OF HIS PEERS OR THE LAW OF THE LAND. THE USE OF A
SUPPRESSED VOLUNTARY ADMISSION OR VOLUNTARY CONFESSION TO
IMPEACH THE CREDIBILITY OF A PERSON MAY BE PERMITTED AND SHALL
NOT BE CONSTRUED AS COMPELLING A PERSON TO GIVE EVIDENCE AGAINST
HIMSELF.

SECTION 2. THIS PROPOSED AMENDMENT SHALL BE SUBMITTED BY THE
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS
THROUGHOUT THE COMMONWEALTH AT THE PRIMARY, MUNICIPAL OR GENERAL
ELECTION NEXT HELD AFTER THE ADVERTISING REQUIREMENTS OF ARTICLE
XI, SECTION 1, OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF
PENNSYLVANIA HAVE BEEN SATISFIED.