
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 171 Session of
1997

INTRODUCED BY HERMAN, CLYMER, MELIO, TRELLO, WOJNAROSKI,
FLEAGLE, GODSHALL, PLATTS, WAUGH, COWELL, SCHULER, GEIST,
SAYLOR, COY, FARGO, PESCI, CLARK, KAISER, SEMMEL, B. SMITH,
TIGUE, MILLER, WOGAN, ARGALL, COLAIZZO, VAN HORNE, OLASZ,
BOSCOLA, SCRIMENTI, STERN, SHANER, BARD, L. I. COHEN, CARONE,
HENNESSEY, C. WILLIAMS, STEELMAN, TULLI, EGOLF AND ROSS,
FEBRUARY 3, 1997

AS AMENDED ON THIRD CONSIDERATION, IN SENATE, JUNE 10, 1997

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth
2 of Pennsylvania, further providing for absentee voting.

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

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

7 That section 14 of Article VII be amended to read:

8 § 14. Absentee voting.

9 (a) The Legislature shall, by general law, provide a manner
10 in which, and the time and place at which, qualified electors
11 who may, on the occurrence of any election, be absent from the
12 [State or county] municipality of their residence, because their
13 duties, occupation or business require them to be elsewhere or
14 who, on the occurrence of any election, are unable to attend at

1 their proper polling places because of illness or physical
2 disability or who will not attend a polling place because of the
3 observance of a religious holiday or who cannot vote because of
4 election day duties, in the case of a county employee, may vote,
5 and for the return and canvass of their votes in the election
6 district in which they respectively reside.

7 (b) For purposes of this section, "municipality" means a
8 city, borough, incorporated town, township or any similar
9 general purpose unit of government which may be created by the
10 General Assembly.

11 Section 2. ~~(a) Upon the first passage by the General~~ ←
12 ~~Assembly of this proposed constitutional amendment, the~~
13 ~~Secretary of the Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to~~
14 ~~comply with the advertising requirements of section 1 of Article~~
15 ~~XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the~~
16 ~~required advertisements to two newspapers in every county in~~
17 ~~which such newspapers are published in sufficient time after~~
18 ~~passage of this proposed constitutional amendment.~~

19 (b) Upon the second passage by the General Assembly of this
20 proposed constitutional amendment, the Secretary of the
21 Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to comply with the
22 advertising requirements of section 1 of Article XI of the
23 Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the required
24 advertisements to two newspapers in every county in which such
25 newspapers are published in sufficient time after passage of
26 this proposed constitutional amendment. The Secretary of the
27 Commonwealth shall submit this proposed constitutional amendment
28 to the qualified electors of this Commonwealth at the first
29 primary, general or municipal election occurring at least three
30 months after the proposed constitutional amendment is passed by

1 the General Assembly which meets the requirements of and is in
2 conformance with section 1 of Article XI of the Constitution of
3 Pennsylvania.