

(This Joint Resolution No. 3 was passed for the first time at the Legislative Session of 1996 as Joint Resolution No. 2 and for the second time at the Legislative Session of 1997 and was approved by the electorate on November 4, 1997.)

No. 1997-3

A JOINT RESOLUTION

HB 171

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

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 of Article VII be amended to read:

§ 14. Absentee voting.

(a) 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] *municipality* 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 will not attend a polling place because of the observance of a religious holiday or who cannot vote because of election day duties, in the case of a county employee, may vote, and for the return and canvass of their votes in the election district in which they respectively reside.

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

Section 2. Upon the second passage by the General Assembly of this proposed constitutional amendment, the Secretary of the Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to comply with the advertising requirements of section 1 of Article XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the required advertisements to two newspapers in every county in which such newspapers are published in sufficient time after passage of this proposed constitutional amendment. The Secretary of the Commonwealth shall submit this proposed constitutional amendment to the qualified electors of this Commonwealth at the first primary, general or municipal election occurring at least three months after

the proposed constitutional amendment is passed by the General Assembly which meets the requirements of and is in conformance with section 1 of Article XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania.

