

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 41 Session of 2017

INTRODUCED BY WILLIAMS AND MCGARRIGLE, JANUARY 12, 2017

REFERRED TO FINANCE, JANUARY 12, 2017

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth
 2 of Pennsylvania, in taxation and finance, further providing
 3 for exemptions and special provisions.

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

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

8 That section 2(b) of Article VIII be amended by adding a
 9 paragraph to read:

10 § 2. Exemptions and special provisions.

11 * * *

12 (b) The General Assembly may, by law:

13 * * *

14 (vii) Permit a city of the first class to impose taxes for
 15 the benefit of the city of the first class on real estate used
 16 for business purposes at a tax rate that exceeds the tax rate
 17 applicable to other real estate, in accordance with the
 18 following:

19 (A) So long as a rate variance is in effect, the combined

1 rate of taxes on real estate used for business purposes imposed
2 by the city of the first class or authorized by the city of the
3 first class for its school district shall not vary by more than
4 fifteen percent from the combined rate of taxes on other real
5 estate imposed or authorized by the city of the first class.

6 (B) The General Assembly shall require the city of the first
7 class to reduce the aggregate revenue from other taxes imposed
8 for the benefit of the city of the first class both on
9 businesses and any wage and net profits tax by the amount of any
10 real estate tax revenues attributable to the variance.

11 * * *

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

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

1 requirements of and is in conformance with section 1 of Article
2 XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and which occurs at least
3 three months after the proposed constitutional amendment is
4 passed by the General Assembly.