

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 497 Session of
1991

INTRODUCED BY REINARD, TRELLO, VROON, HALUSKA, MELIO,
D. W. SNYDER, CIVERA, COLAIZZO, FARGO, NOYE, WOZNIAK,
FLEAGLE, BUNT, BILLOW, DEMPSEY, CORRIGAN, RAYMOND, LEH,
MICOZZIE, E. Z. TAYLOR, ADOLPH, ARMSTRONG, DeLUCA, SEMMEL AND
KING, MARCH 11, 1991

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, MARCH 11, 1991

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth
2 of Pennsylvania, providing for concurrence of three-fifths of
3 all members of each House for the passage of measures
4 imposing new taxes or license fees; and further providing for
5 Commonwealth indebtedness.

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

8 Section 1. The following amendments to the Constitution of
9 Pennsylvania are proposed in accordance with Article XI:

10 (1) That section 4 of Article III be amended to read:

11 § 4. Consideration of bills.

12 Every bill shall be considered on three different days in
13 each House. All amendments made thereto shall be printed for the
14 use of the members before the final vote is taken on the bill
15 and before the final vote is taken, upon written request
16 addressed to the presiding officer of either House by at least
17 25% of the members elected to that House, any bill shall be read

1 at length in that House. No bill shall become a law, unless on
2 its final passage the vote is taken by yeas and nays, the names
3 of the persons voting for and against it are entered on the
4 journal, and a majority of the members elected to each House is
5 recorded thereon as voting in its favor. No tax or license fee
6 or increase of any tax or license fee shall be imposed except
7 pursuant to an act of the General Assembly adopted with the
8 concurrence of three-fifths of all members of each House.

9 (2) That section 7 of Article VIII be amended by adding a
10 subsection to read:

11 § 7. Commonwealth indebtedness.

12 * * *

13 (e) To make up for insufficient revenues, the General
14 Assembly may, where necessary, increase the rate of taxes and
15 fees after the failure to pay, when due, the principal and
16 interest on the debt.

17 Section 2. That no inconvenience may arise from changes in
18 Article III of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, it is hereby
19 declared that this amendment shall not apply to any tax or
20 license fee authorized by an act of the General Assembly but not
21 effective on the effective date of this amendment.