

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 55 Session of 2011

INTRODUCED BY MUSTIO, BOYD, CHRISTIANA, GRELL, HORNAMAN,  
KAUFFMAN, MAHER, METZGAR, MURT, PEIFER, READSHAW, REESE,  
ROAE, SCAVELLO, M. SMITH, SWANGER, VULAKOVICH AND WATSON,  
FEBRUARY 14, 2011

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, FEBRUARY 14, 2011

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing separate and distinct amendments to the Constitution  
2 of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, further providing for  
3 terms of members and for legislative districts.

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

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

8 (1) That section 3 of Article II be amended to read:

9 § 3. Terms of members.

10 [Senators shall be elected for the term of four years and  
11 Representatives for term of two years.]

12 (a) Senators shall be elected for the term of six years.

13 (b) Except as provided under subsection (c), Representatives  
14 shall be elected for the term of four years.

15 (c) At the first general election in an even-numbered year  
16 after the adoption of the amendment adding this subsection, all  
17 Representatives from even-numbered districts shall be elected

for the term of four years and all Representatives from odd-  
numbered districts shall be elected for the term of two years.

(2) That section 16 of Article II be amended to read:

§ 16. Legislative districts.

The Commonwealth shall be divided into [50] 37 senatorial and  
[203] 185 representative districts, which shall be composed of  
compact and contiguous territory as nearly equal in population  
as practicable. Each senatorial district shall elect one  
Senator, and each representative district one Representative. No  
representative district may be divided in the formation of a  
senatorial district. Unless absolutely necessary no county,  
city, incorporated town, borough, township or ward shall be  
divided in forming either a senatorial or representative  
district.

Section 2. (a) Upon the first passage by the General  
Assembly of these proposed constitutional amendments, 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 these proposed constitutional amendments.

(b) Upon the second passage by the General Assembly of these  
proposed constitutional amendments, 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  
these proposed constitutional amendments. The Secretary of the

1 Commonwealth shall submit the proposed constitutional amendments  
2 under section 1 to the qualified electors of this Commonwealth  
3 as separate ballot questions at the first primary, general or  
4 municipal election which meets the requirements of and is in  
5 conformance with section 1 of Article XI of the Constitution of  
6 Pennsylvania and which occurs at least three months after the  
7 proposed constitutional amendments are passed by the General  
8 Assembly.