
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 389 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY BAKER, BLAKE, LEACH, BARTOLOTTA, SABATINA,
GREENLEAF, MCGARRIGLE, YUDICHAK, FONTANA, VOGEL, COSTA,
RESCHENTHALER, HUGHES, HUTCHINSON, RAFFERTY, SCARNATI,
VULAKOVICH AND BROWNE, FEBRUARY 16, 2017

REFERRED TO FINANCE, FEBRUARY 16, 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 persons with military service-connected disabilities to
4 receive property tax exemptions.

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

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

9 That section 2(c) of Article VIII be amended to read:

10 § 2. Exemptions and special provisions.

11 * * *

12 (c) Citizens and residents of this Commonwealth, who served
13 in [any war or armed conflict in which the United States was
14 engaged] the armed forces of the United States and were
15 honorably discharged or released under honorable circumstances
16 from active service, shall be exempt from the payment of all
17 real property taxes upon the residence occupied by the said

1 citizens and residents of this Commonwealth imposed by the
2 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or any of its political
3 subdivisions if, as a result of military service, they are
4 blind, paraplegic or double or quadruple amputees or have a
5 service-connected disability declared by the United States
6 Veterans Administration or its successor to be a total or 100%
7 permanent disability, and if the State Veterans' Commission
8 determines that such persons are in need of the tax exemptions
9 granted herein. This exemption shall be extended to the
10 unmarried surviving spouse upon the death of an eligible veteran
11 provided that the State Veterans' Commission determines that
12 such person is in need of the exemption.

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

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

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