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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE BILL

## No. 1762

Session of  
1975

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INTRODUCED BY MESSRS. IRVIS, BUTERA, FINEMAN, PETRARCA, GEESEY, O'CONNELL, LEHR, ANDERSON, DININNI, HEPFORD, LYNCH, MANMILLER, SPENCER, SCHEAFFER, W. W. FOSTER, HILL, BRANDT, TURNER, REED, NOYE, CIMINI, GRIECO, CESSAR, McCUE, KLINGAMAN, A. C. FOSTER, O'BRIEN, MOEHLMANN, McCALL, GOODMAN, SHUPNIK, DeVERTER, MEBUS, WAGNER, FISHER, KISTLER, SHELHAMER, COLE, LETTERMAN, W. D. HUTCHINSON, MUSTO, COHEN, SCHMITT, MENHORN AND DORR, SEPTEMBER 30, 1975.

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AS AMENDED IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, SEPTEMBER 30, 1975

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A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an emergency Constitutional amendment to the  
2 Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania granting the  
3 General Assembly the power to enact special laws to aid  
4 certain individuals, corporations, associations, institutions  
5 or nonpublic schools adversely affected by conditions caused  
6 by certain storms or floods.

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

9 Section 1. Many Pennsylvanians have suffered greatly from  
10 the ravages of great storms or floods in the last few years. The  
11 great storms or floods of 1974 and 1975 are additional major  
12 disasters causing loss of life and great damage and destruction  
13 to property of individuals, industrial and commercial  
14 establishments and public facilities.

15 It is imperative that the victims of these disasters  
16 immediately receive the fullest possible aid from both the  
17 public and private sectors in order to clean up and rebuild the

1 affected areas of the Commonwealth and that persons in the  
2 Commonwealth be eligible for the maximum available aid from the  
3 government of the United States.

4 The General Assembly desires to alleviate such storm or  
5 economic deprivation caused by the floods but is limited in its  
6 efforts by rigid restrictions in the Constitution of the  
7 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The safety and welfare of the  
8 Commonwealth requires prompt amendment to the Constitution of  
9 the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

10 The following amendment to the Constitution of the  
11 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is proposed in accordance with the  
12 emergency provisions contained in subsections (a) and (b) of  
13 section one of the eleventh article thereof:

14 That section 17 of article eight of the Constitution of the  
15 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania be amended to read:

16 Section 17. Special Emergency Legislation.--Notwithstanding  
17 any provisions of this Constitution to the contrary, the General  
18 Assembly shall have the authority to enact laws providing for  
19 tax rebates, credits, exemptions, grants-in-aid, State  
20 supplementations, or otherwise provide special provisions for  
21 individuals, corporations, associations or nonprofit  
22 institutions, including nonpublic schools (whether sectarian or  
23 nonsectarian) in order to alleviate the danger, damage,  
24 suffering or hardship faced by such individuals, corporations,  
25 associations, institutions or nonpublic schools as a result of  
26 great [storm or flood] storms or floods of September 1971, [or]  
27 of June, 1972 OR OF 1974, or of 1975. <—

28 Section 2. This proposed amendment shall be submitted by the  
29 Secretary of the Commonwealth to the qualified electors of the  
30 State at the municipal election to be held on November 4, 1975,

1 after the advertising requirements of subsection (a) of section  
2 one of article eleven of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of  
3 Pennsylvania have been satisfied.