

## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE BILL

## No. 1037

Session of  
1997

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INTRODUCED BY HUTCHINSON, MASLAND, ARMSTRONG, GEORGE, MELIO,  
SCHRODER, LYNCH, FICHTER, NAILOR, FLICK, ZUG, WAUGH, LEH,  
HERSHEY, ROBERTS, FAIRCHILD, FARGO, MILLER, RAYMOND, EGOLF,  
TULLI, PLATTS, ROHRER, TRELLO, CORRIGAN, BOSCOLA, GEIST,  
BROWNE, McNAUGHTON, LAUGHLIN AND BARD, MARCH 25, 1997

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, MARCH 25, 1997

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## A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth  
2 of Pennsylvania, providing for tax increase limitations.

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

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

7 That Article VIII be amended by adding a section to read:

8 § 18. Tax increase limitations.

9 (a) Taxes instituted by the Commonwealth require the  
10 affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members elected to each  
11 House of the General Assembly.

12 (b) Tax rate increases of greater than the inflation rate,  
13 as determined by the United States Department of Labor, imposed  
14 by the Commonwealth require the affirmative vote of two-thirds  
15 of the members elected to each House of the General Assembly.

16 (c) Tax base expansions imposed by the Commonwealth require

1 the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members elected to  
2 each House of the General Assembly.

3       Section 2. (a) Upon the first passage by the General  
4 Assembly of this proposed constitutional amendment, the  
5 Secretary of the Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to  
6 comply with the advertising requirements of section 1 of Article  
7 XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the  
8 required advertisements to two newspapers in every county in  
9 which such newspapers are published in sufficient time after  
10 passage of this proposed constitutional amendment.

11       (b) Upon the second passage by the General Assembly of this  
12 proposed constitutional amendment, the Secretary of the  
13 Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to comply with the  
14 advertising requirements of section 1 of Article XI of the  
15 Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the required  
16 advertisements to two newspapers in every county in which such  
17 newspapers are published in sufficient time after passage of  
18 this proposed constitutional amendment. The Secretary of the  
19 Commonwealth shall submit this proposed constitutional amendment  
20 to the qualified electors of this Commonwealth at the first  
21 primary, general or municipal election occurring at least three  
22 months after the proposed constitutional amendment is passed by  
23 the General Assembly which meets the requirements of and is in  
24 conformance with section 1 of Article XI of the Constitution of  
25 Pennsylvania.

26       Section 3. The addition of section 18 of Article VIII of the  
27 Constitution of Pennsylvania shall become effective beginning  
28 with the first fiscal year commencing more than six months  
29 following approval of this section by the electorate.