

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1139 Session of
1997

INTRODUCED BY PLATTS, ARMSTRONG, FLICK, CLARK, KREBS, MASLAND, BARD, CARONE, DALLY, FLEAGLE, NAILOR, MARSICO, CHADWICK, EGOLF, READSHAW, DeLUCA, TRELLO, MAITLAND, ALLEN, WAUGH, BOSCOLA, LYNCH, SHANER, LAUGHLIN, RUBLEY, NICKOL, HUTCHINSON, FAIRCHILD, BAKER, ARGALL, TANGRETTI, STEIL, MILLER, SATHER, FEESE, DENT, DALEY, TRUE, HASAY, VANCE, HANNA, DRUCE, JAMES, STEVENSON, STEELMAN, STETLER, BARRAR, D. W. SNYDER, SERAFINI, TRICH, STRITTMATTER, ROHRER, MCGILL, L. I. COHEN, SCHRODER, LEH, MELIO, YEWIC, SEYFERT, ZIMMERMAN, M. N. WRIGHT, ROBERTS, BENNINGHOFF, McNAUGHTON AND ROSS, APRIL 2, 1997

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, APRIL 2, 1997

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth
2 of Pennsylvania, providing for a maximum number of
3 consecutive terms of office for members of the General
4 Assembly.

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 3 of Article II be amended to read:

10 § 3. Terms of members.

11 (a) Senators shall be elected for the term of four years and
12 Representatives for the term of two years. Senators shall not be
13 eligible for election to more than three consecutive terms of
14 office in the Senate. Representatives shall not be eligible for

election to more than six consecutive terms of office in the House of Representatives.

(b) A Senator who has served the maximum number of consecutive terms of office in the Senate may become a candidate for election to the Senate at an election held not fewer than three years after completion of the Senator's third consecutive term of office. A Representative who has served the maximum number of consecutive terms of office in the House of Representatives may become a candidate for election to the House of Representatives at an election held not less than one year after completion of the Representative's sixth consecutive term of office.

(c) Service in the General Assembly performed prior to December 1, 2000, shall not be considered in determining the maximum number of consecutive terms a Senator or Representative may serve or in determining eligibility of a Senator or Representative for election.

(d) For persons elected to a term of office in the Senate in an election held in any year after the year 1997 and said term of office ends on November 30, 2002, service in the Senate performed prior to December 1, 2002, shall not be considered in determining the maximum number of consecutive terms such a person may serve or in determining eligibility of such a person for election.

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

1 which such newspapers are published in sufficient time after
2 passage of this proposed constitutional amendment.

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