

## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## HOUSE BILL

No. 1699 Session of  
1997

INTRODUCED BY M. COHEN, STERN, TRELLO, BENNINGHOFF, OLASZ,  
BELARDI, GIGLIOTTI, WALKO, TIGUE, McCALL, BISHOP, STABACK,  
BELFANTI, RAMOS, CURRY, JAMES, YOUNGBLOOD AND STEELMAN,  
JUNE 23, 1997

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, JUNE 23, 1997

## A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth  
2 of Pennsylvania, allowing jurors the right to have certain  
3 questions answered during trials.

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

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

8 That Article V be amended by adding a section to read:

9 § 19. Jurors.

10 Jurors shall have the right to have appropriate questions  
11 answered during a civil or criminal trial, subject to rules  
12 adopted by the Supreme Court.

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

1 required advertisements to two newspapers in every county in  
2 which such newspapers are published in sufficient time after  
3 passage of this proposed constitutional amendment.

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