

## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE BILL

## No. 1786

Session of  
1997

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INTRODUCED BY HERMAN, CLYMER, BEBKO-JONES, FAIRCHILD, CURRY,  
SCHRODER, BUNT, LAUGHLIN, HESS, PRESTON, STERN, CAWLEY,  
BROWNE, MELIO, BENNINGHOFF, PESCI, E. Z. TAYLOR, COY,  
FICHTER, OLASZ, BAKER, STEELMAN, SCHULER, CORPORA, WILT,  
TIGUE, HENNESSEY, SCRIMENTI, ROSS, SHANER, ITKIN, RAMOS,  
LaGROTTA, HALUSKA, PETRARCA, TANGRETTI, STABACK, WOJNAROSKI,  
ROONEY, JAROLIN, BOSCOLA, BELARDI, McCALL AND EACHUS,  
SEPTEMBER 24, 1997

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, SEPTEMBER 24, 1997

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## A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth  
2 of Pennsylvania, authorizing the General Assembly to increase  
3 certain benefits or pensions.

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 section 26 of Article III be amended to read:

9 § 26. Extra compensation prohibited; claims against the  
10 Commonwealth; retirement benefits or pensions.

11 No bill shall be passed giving any extra compensation to any  
12 public officer, servant, employee, agent or contractor, after  
13 services shall have been rendered or contract made, nor  
14 providing for the payment of any claim against the Commonwealth  
15 without previous authority of law: Provided, however, That

1 nothing in this Constitution shall be construed to prohibit the  
2 General Assembly from authorizing the increase of retirement  
3 [allowances] benefits or pensions payable to members or  
4 beneficiaries who are spouses of members of a retirement or  
5 pension system now in effect or hereafter legally constituted by  
6 the Commonwealth, its political subdivisions, agencies or  
7 instrumentalities, after the termination of the services of said  
8 member[.]: Provided, That such increases are certified to be  
9 actuarially sound.

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

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

1 conformance with section 1 of Article XI of the Constitution of  
2 Pennsylvania.