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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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**SENATE BILL**

**No. 327**      Session of  
2007

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INTRODUCED BY BROWNE, ERICKSON, BOSCOLA, KITCHEN, WONDERLING,  
ORIE AND RAFFERTY, JANUARY 29, 2007

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REFERRED TO FINANCE, JANUARY 29, 2007

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A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an emergency amendment to the Constitution of the  
2 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, further providing for  
3 exemptions and special provisions.

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 the emergency  
8 provisions of Article XI:

9 That section 2(b)(vi) of Article VIII be amended to read:

10 § 2. Exemptions and special provisions.

11 \* \* \*

12 (b) The General Assembly may, by law:

13 \* \* \*

14 (vi) Authorize local taxing authorities to exclude from  
15 taxation an amount based on the assessed value of homestead  
16 property. The exclusions authorized by this clause shall not  
17 exceed [one-half of] the median assessed value of all homestead

1 property within a local taxing jurisdiction. A local taxing  
2 authority may not increase the millage rate of its tax on real  
3 property to pay for these exclusions.

4 \* \* \*

5 Section 2. (a) The General Assembly hereby determines that  
6 a major emergency threatens or is about to threaten this  
7 Commonwealth, and the safety or welfare of this Commonwealth  
8 requires prompt amendment of the Constitution of Pennsylvania by  
9 this constitutional amendment.

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