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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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**SENATE BILL**

**No. 404**      Session of  
2007

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INTRODUCED BY BROWNE, ERICKSON, BOSCOLA, KITCHEN, WONDERLING,  
ORIE, RAFFERTY, GREENLEAF, D. WHITE, PIPPY AND WOZNIAK,  
MARCH 13, 2007

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REFERRED TO FINANCE, MARCH 13, 2007

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A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth  
2 of Pennsylvania, further providing for exemptions and special  
3 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 provisions of  
8 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) Upon the first passage by the General  
6 Assembly of this proposed constitutional amendment, the  
7 Secretary of the Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to  
8 comply with the advertising requirements of section 1 of Article  
9 XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the  
10 required advertisements to two newspapers in every county in  
11 which such newspapers are published in sufficient time after  
12 passage of this proposed constitutional amendment.

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