

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 96 Session of 2011

INTRODUCED BY KORTZ, BOYD, CUTLER, DeLUCA, JOSEPHS, MULLERY,  
MURT, MUSTIO, SIMMONS, SWANGER, VULAKOVICH AND WAGNER,  
JANUARY 20, 2011

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, JANUARY 20, 2011

AN ACT

1 Providing for a nonbinding Statewide referendum relating to  
2 convening a limited constitutional convention on the  
3 structure and function of the General Assembly.

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

6 Section 1. Legislative findings.

7 The General Assembly finds that the electors of this  
8 Commonwealth should be given the opportunity to voice their  
9 opinion if they wish to restructure the General Assembly. The  
10 power of the government rests within the people as stated in  
11 section 2 of Article I of the Constitution of Pennsylvania:

12 "All power is inherent in the people, and all free  
13 governments are founded on their authority and instituted  
14 for their peace, safety and happiness. For the  
15 advancement of these ends they have at all times an  
16 inalienable and indefeasible right to alter, reform or  
17 abolish their government in such manner as they may think  
18 proper."

1 Section 2. Authorization.

2 The Secretary of the Commonwealth shall cause to be placed on  
3 the ballot, at the primary or general election occurring at  
4 least 30 days next following the effective date of this section,  
5 a nonbinding referendum to determine the will of the electorate  
6 of this Commonwealth with respect to the structure and function  
7 of the General Assembly.

8 Section 3. Form of question.

9 The referendum question shall be in substantially the  
10 following form:

11 Shall the Pennsylvania General Assembly convene a limited  
12 constitutional convention on the structure and function  
13 of the General Assembly?

14 Section 4. Conduct of election.

15 The referendum shall be advertised and conducted in  
16 accordance with the provisions of the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.  
17 1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code.

18 Section 5. Effective date.

19 This act shall take effect immediately.