

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 324 Session of 2013

INTRODUCED BY VOGEL, KASUNIC, ERICKSON, TOMLINSON, VULAKOVICH,  
BROWNE, WHITE, FERLO, SOLOBAY, YUDICHAK, WAUGH, BOSCOLA,  
ALLOWAY, BRUBAKER, TEPLITZ, PILEGGI, BREWSTER AND SMITH,  
JANUARY 25, 2013

SENATOR SMUCKER, STATE GOVERNMENT, AS AMENDED, JUNE 3, 2014

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth  
2 of Pennsylvania, reducing the size of the General Assembly.

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

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

7 ~~That section 16 of Article II be amended to read:~~

8 ~~§ 16. Legislative districts.~~

9 ~~The Commonwealth shall be divided into [50] 30 senatorial and~~  
10 ~~[203] 121 representative districts, which shall be composed of~~  
11 ~~compact and contiguous territory as nearly equal in population~~  
12 ~~as practicable. Each senatorial district shall elect one~~  
13 ~~Senator, and each representative district one Representative.~~  
14 ~~Unless absolutely necessary no county, city, incorporated town,~~  
15 ~~borough, township or ward shall be divided in forming either a~~  
16 ~~senatorial or representative district.~~

1       ~~Section 2. (a) Upon the first passage by the General~~  
2 ~~Assembly of this proposed constitutional amendment, the~~  
3 ~~Secretary of the Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to~~  
4 ~~comply with the advertising requirements of section 1 of Article~~  
5 ~~XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the~~  
6 ~~required advertisements to two newspapers in every county in~~  
7 ~~which such newspapers are published in sufficient time after~~  
8 ~~passage of this proposed constitutional amendment.~~

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

24       ~~Section 3. The amendment of section 16 of Article II of the~~  
25 ~~Constitution of Pennsylvania shall become effective after the~~  
26 ~~2010 Federal census reapportionment.~~

27       ~~Section 4. The Senate and House of Representatives, upon the~~  
28 ~~effective date of the amendment of section 16 of Article II of~~  
29 ~~the Constitution of Pennsylvania, shall each reduce their~~  
30 ~~budgets by 40% compared to the budgets of the prior year.~~

1 SECTION 1. THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF  
2 PENNSYLVANIA IS PROPOSED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE XI:

3 THAT SECTION 16 OF ARTICLE II BE AMENDED TO READ:

4 § 16. LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS.

5 THE COMMONWEALTH SHALL BE DIVIDED INTO [50] 45 SENATORIAL AND  
6 203 REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICTS, WHICH SHALL BE COMPOSED OF COMPACT  
7 AND CONTIGUOUS TERRITORY AS NEARLY EQUAL IN POPULATION AS  
8 PRACTICABLE. EACH SENATORIAL DISTRICT SHALL ELECT ONE SENATOR,  
9 AND EACH REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT ONE REPRESENTATIVE. UNLESS  
10 ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY NO COUNTY, CITY, INCORPORATED TOWN,  
11 BOROUGH, TOWNSHIP OR WARD SHALL BE DIVIDED IN FORMING EITHER A  
12 SENATORIAL OR REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT.

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  
18 REQUIRED ADVERTISEMENTS TO TWO NEWSPAPERS IN EVERY COUNTY IN  
19 WHICH SUCH NEWSPAPERS ARE PUBLISHED IN SUFFICIENT TIME AFTER  
20 PASSAGE OF THIS PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

21 (B) UPON THE SECOND PASSAGE BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THIS  
22 PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT, THE SECRETARY OF THE  
23 COMMONWEALTH SHALL PROCEED IMMEDIATELY TO COMPLY WITH THE  
24 ADVERTISING REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 1 OF ARTICLE XI OF THE  
25 CONSTITUTION OF PENNSYLVANIA AND SHALL TRANSMIT THE REQUIRED  
26 ADVERTISEMENTS TO TWO NEWSPAPERS IN EVERY COUNTY IN WHICH SUCH  
27 NEWSPAPERS ARE PUBLISHED IN SUFFICIENT TIME AFTER PASSAGE OF  
28 THIS PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT. THE SECRETARY OF THE  
29 COMMONWEALTH SHALL SUBMIT THIS PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT  
30 TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THIS COMMONWEALTH AT THE FIRST

1 PRIMARY, GENERAL OR MUNICIPAL ELECTION WHICH MEETS THE  
2 REQUIREMENTS OF AND IS IN CONFORMANCE WITH SECTION 1 OF ARTICLE  
3 XI OF THE CONSTITUTION OF PENNSYLVANIA AND WHICH OCCURS AT LEAST  
4 THREE MONTHS AFTER THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT IS  
5 PASSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

6 SECTION 3. UPON RATIFICATION BY THE ELECTORS, THE GENERAL  
7 ASSEMBLY SHALL ENACT LEGISLATION TO IMPLEMENT THIS  
8 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT SO THAT IT APPLIES FOR THE FIRST TIME  
9 TO THE FIRST SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WHICH BEGINS AFTER  
10 THE 2020 REAPPORTIONMENT.