
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 871 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY TAYLOR, SOLOMON, DUNBAR, DRISCOLL, BULLOCK, BOYLE,
MURT AND NEILSON, MARCH 17, 2017

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, MARCH 17, 2017

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth
2 of Pennsylvania, in taxation and finance, further providing
3 for 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 Article XI:

8 That section 2(b) of Article VIII be amended by adding a
9 paragraph to read:

10 § 2. Exemptions and special provisions.

11 * * *

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

13 * * *

14 (vii) Permit a city of the first class to impose taxes for
15 the benefit of the city of the first class on real estate used
16 for business purposes at a tax rate that exceeds the tax rate
17 applicable to other real estate, in accordance with the
18 following:

1 (A) So long as a rate variance is in effect, the combined
2 rate of taxes on real estate used for business purposes imposed
3 by the city of the first class or authorized by the city of the
4 first class for its school district shall not vary by more than
5 fifteen percent from the combined rate of taxes on other real
6 estate imposed or authorized by the city of the first class.

7 (B) The General Assembly shall require the city of the first
8 class to reduce the aggregate revenue from other taxes imposed
9 for the benefit of the city of the first class both on
10 businesses and any wage and net profits tax by the amount of any
11 real estate tax revenues attributable to the variance.

12 * * *

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.