
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1645 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY KLUNK, D. COSTA, PHILLIPS-HILL, DUNBAR, COX,
SAYLOR, MARSICO, HILL-EVANS, NEILSON AND MOUL, JUNE 30, 2017

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, JUNE 30, 2017

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth
2 of Pennsylvania, further providing for qualifications of
3 certain judges.

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 12(b) of Article V be amended to read:

9 § 12. Qualifications of justices, judges and justices of the
10 peace.

11 * * *

12 (b) Justices of the peace shall be members of the bar of the
13 Supreme Court or shall complete a course of training and
14 instruction in the duties of their respective offices and pass
15 an examination prior to [assuming office] being nominated to
16 fill vacancies pursuant to section 13(b) of this article or to
17 filing a nomination petition for their respective offices. Such
18 courses and examinations shall be as provided by law.

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 the proposed constitutional amendment
18 under section 1 to the qualified electors of this Commonwealth
19 at the first primary, general or municipal election occurring at
20 least three months after the proposed constitutional amendment
21 is passed by the General Assembly.