A JOINT RESOLUTION

1. Proposing integrated amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, further providing for action by Lieutenant Governor as Governor and for vacancy in office of Lieutenant Governor; and providing for an initiative to recall elected Statewide officers.

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

Section 1. The following integrated amendments to the Constitution of Pennsylvania are proposed in accordance with Article XI:

1. That sections 13 and 14 of Article IV be amended to read:

§ 13. When Lieutenant Governor to act as Governor.

In the case of the death, conviction on impeachment, failure to qualify or resignation of the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor shall become Governor for the remainder of the term [and in]. In the case of the recall of the Governor, the
Lieutenant Governor shall become Governor until a Governor is sworn in after a successor election under section 20(c). In the case of the disability of the Governor, the powers, duties and emoluments of the office shall devolve upon the Lieutenant Governor until the disability is removed.


In case of the death, conviction on impeachment, failure to qualify or resignation of the Lieutenant Governor, or in case he should become Governor under section 13 of this article, the President pro tempore of the Senate shall become Lieutenant Governor for the remainder of the term. In case of the recall of the Lieutenant Governor, the President pro tempore of the Senate shall become Lieutenant Governor until a Lieutenant Governor is sworn in after a successor election under section 20(c). In case of the disability of the Lieutenant Governor, the powers, duties and emoluments of the office shall devolve upon the President pro tempore of the Senate until the disability is removed.

Should there be no Lieutenant Governor, the President pro tempore of the Senate shall become Governor if a vacancy shall occur in the office of Governor and in case of the disability of the Governor, the powers, duties and emoluments of the office shall devolve upon the President pro tempore of the Senate until the disability is removed. His seat as Senator shall become vacant whenever he shall become Governor and shall be filled by election as any other vacancy in the Senate.

(2) That Article IV be amended by adding a section to read:

§ 20. Initiative to recall elected Statewide officers.

(a) The recall of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Auditor General or State Treasurer may be proposed by a petition signed by a number of electors equal in
number to at least 25% of the total votes cast for that position
in the preceding election, with at least 200 signatures from
each of at least 34 separate counties. A petition must have been
signed by the petitioning electors not more than 150 days after
an affidavit has been filed with the Bureau of Commissions,
Elections and Legislation providing notice of intent to
circulate a petition to recall. The affidavit may be filed no
sooner than six months after the beginning of the term of office
for that position.

(b) The form of the petition, circulation and procedure for
determining the validity and sufficiency of a petition shall be
as provided by law. If the petition is valid and sufficient, the
Bureau of Commissions, Elections and Legislation shall certify
the petition not more than 100 days after the date the petition
was filed, and the question "Shall (name) be recalled from the
office of (position)?" must be submitted to the electors at a
special election called by the Bureau of Commissions, Elections
and Legislation, which must occur not more than 100 days after
certification of the petition. A recall petition certified by
the Bureau of Commissions, Elections and Legislation may not be
withdrawn and another recall petition may not be initiated
against the elected Statewide officer during the remainder of
the current term of office. A recall petition or recall election
pending on the date of the next general election at which a
candidate for the office is elected is moot.

(c) If a petition to recall the Governor, Lieutenant
Governor, Attorney General, Auditor General or State Treasurer
has been filed with the Bureau of Commissions, Elections and
Legislation, a person eligible to serve in the position may
propose his or her candidacy by a petition signed by a number of
electors equal in number to the requirement for petitions for an 
established party candidate for the office, signed by 
petitioning electors not more than 50 days after a recall 
petition has been filed with the Bureau of Commissions, 
Elections and Legislation. The form of a successor election 
petition, circulation and procedure for determining the validity 
and sufficiency of a petition shall be as provided by law. If 
the successor election petition is valid and sufficient, the 
Bureau of Commissions, Elections and Legislation shall certify 
the petition not more than 100 days after the date the recall 
petition was filed. Names of candidates for nomination to serve 
as the candidate of an established political party must be 
submitted to the electors at a special primary election, if 
necessary, called by the Bureau of Commissions, Elections and 
Legislation to be held at the same time as the special election 
on the question of recall established under subsection (b). 
Names of candidates for the successor election must be submitted 
to the electors at a special successor election called by the 
Bureau of Commissions, Elections and Legislation, which must 
occur not more than 60 days after the date of the special 
primary election or on a date established by law. 
(d) The Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, 
Auditor General or State Treasurer shall be immediately removed 
upon certification of the recall election results if a majority 
of the electors voting on the question vote to recall the 
elected Statewide officer.

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

(b) Upon the second passage by the General Assembly of these proposed constitutional amendments, the Secretary of the Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to comply with the advertising requirements of section 1 of Article XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the required advertisements to two newspapers in every county in which such newspapers are published in sufficient time after passage of these proposed constitutional amendments. The Secretary of the Commonwealth shall submit the proposed constitutional amendments under section 1 of this resolution to the qualified electors of this Commonwealth as a single ballot question at the first primary, general or municipal election which meets the requirements of and is in conformance with section 1 of Article XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and which occurs at least three months after the proposed constitutional amendments are passed by the General Assembly.