

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2052 Session of
2009

INTRODUCED BY HANNA, CONKLIN, CUTLER, DeLUCA, ELLIS, EVERETT,
KORTZ, READSHAW, SHAPIRO, SIPTROTH, STEVENSON AND SWANGER,
OCTOBER 16, 2009

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, OCTOBER 16, 2009

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing integrated amendments to the Constitution of the
2 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, further providing for election
3 and terms of members of the General Assembly and for terms of
4 office of Governor.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby resolves as follows:

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

10 (1) That section 2 of Article II be amended to read:

11 § 2. Election of members; vacancies.

12 [Members] (a) Except as set forth in subsection (b), members
13 of the General Assembly shall be chosen at the general election
14 every second year. Their term of service shall begin on the
15 first day of December next after their election. Whenever a
16 vacancy shall occur in either House, the presiding officer
17 thereof shall issue a writ of election to fill such vacancy for
18 the remainder of the term.

1 (b) In any year in which a general appropriation act is not
2 passed by the General Assembly by June 30, members of the
3 General Assembly shall be chosen at the next succeeding general
4 election to serve beginning on the first day of December next
5 after their election for the remaining terms of the members in
6 office as of June 30. A candidate for nomination to the office
7 of Senator in the General Assembly under this subsection shall
8 present a nominating petition containing at least 500 valid
9 signatures of registered and enrolled members of the proper
10 party, and a candidate for nomination to the office of
11 Representative in the General Assembly under this subsection
12 shall present a nominating petition containing at least 300
13 valid signatures of registered and enrolled members of the
14 proper party.

15 (2) That section 3 of Article II be amended to read:

16 § 3. Terms of members.

17 [Senators] Except as provided in section (2)(b) of this
18 article, senators shall be elected for the term of four years
19 and Representatives for the term of two years.

20 (3) That section 3 of Article IV be amended to read:

21 § 3. Terms of office of Governor; number of terms.

22 [The] (a) Except as set forth in subsection (b), the
23 Governor shall hold his office during four years from the third
24 Tuesday of January next ensuing his election. Except for the
25 Governor who may be in office when this amendment is adopted, he
26 shall be eligible to succeed himself for one additional term.

27 (b) In any year in which a general appropriation act is not
28 signed by the Governor by June 30, a Governor shall be chosen at
29 the next succeeding general election to serve beginning on the
30 first day of December next ensuing his election for the

1 remaining term of the Governor in office as of June 30, but in
2 no event may a Governor succeed himself for more than one
3 additional term.

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

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