

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1698

Session of
1997

INTRODUCED BY M. COHEN, STERN, TRELLO, BENNINGHOFF, MAYERNIK,
OLASZ, BELARDI, GIGLIOTTI, GORDNER, WALKO, TIGUE, McCALL,
BISHOP, STABACK, BELFANTI, RAMOS, CURRY, JAMES, STEELMAN AND
YOUNGBLOOD, JUNE 23, 1997

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, JUNE 23, 1997

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth
2 of Pennsylvania, permitting jurors to take notes during civil
3 and criminal trials.

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 Article V be amended by adding a section to read:

9 § 19. Jurors.

10 Jurors may take notes during any civil or criminal trial
11 subject to rules adopted by the Supreme Court.

12 Section 2. (a) Upon the first passage by the General
13 Assembly of this proposed constitutional amendment, the
14 Secretary of the Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to
15 comply with the advertising requirements of section 1 of Article
16 XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the
17 required advertisements to two newspapers in every county in

1 which such newspapers are published in sufficient time after
2 passage of this proposed constitutional amendment.

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