

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 857 Session of  
2001

INTRODUCED BY GREENLEAF, THOMPSON, LOGAN, CONTI AND EARLL,  
MAY 7, 2001

SENATOR LEMMOND, STATE GOVERNMENT, AS AMENDED, MAY 7, 2002

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth  
2 of Pennsylvania, requiring an individual to pass a  
3 certification examination before filing A nominating petition <—  
4 ~~to become a justice of the traffic court in the City of~~ <—  
5 ~~Philadelphia and district justice.~~ TO BECOME A DISTRICT <—  
6 JUSTICE AND BEFORE ASSUMING OFFICE AS A JUDGE OF THE TRAFFIC  
7 COURT IN THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA.

8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
9 hereby resolves as follows:

10 Section 1. The following amendment to the Constitution of  
11 Pennsylvania is proposed in accordance with Article XI:

12 That section 12(b) of Article V be amended AND THE SECTION BE <—  
13 AMENDED BY ADDING A SUBSECTION to read:

14 § 12. Qualifications of justices, judges and justices of the  
15 peace.

16 \* \* \*

17 (b) [Judges of the traffic court in the City of Philadelphia <—  
18 and justices] JUSTICES of the peace shall be members of the bar <—  
19 of the Supreme Court or shall complete a course of training and

1 instruction in the duties of their respective offices and pass  
2 an examination prior to [assuming office] filing a nomination  
3 petition for their respective offices. Such courses and  
4 examinations shall be as provided by law.

5 (C) JUDGES OF THE TRAFFIC COURT IN THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA <—  
6 SHALL BE MEMBERS OF THE BAR OF THE SUPREME COURT OR SHALL  
7 COMPLETE A COURSE OF TRAINING AND INSTRUCTION IN THE DUTIES OF  
8 THEIR RESPECTIVE OFFICES AND PASS AN EXAMINATION PRIOR TO  
9 ASSUMING OFFICE. SUCH COURSES AND EXAMINATIONS SHALL BE AS  
10 PROVIDED BY LAW.

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

19 (b) Upon the second passage by the General Assembly of these  
20 proposed constitutional amendments, the Secretary of the  
21 Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to comply with the  
22 advertising requirements of section 1 of Article XI of the  
23 Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the required  
24 advertisements to two newspapers in every county in which such  
25 newspapers are published in sufficient time after passage of  
26 these proposed constitutional amendments. The Secretary of the  
27 Commonwealth shall submit the proposed constitutional amendments  
28 under section 1 to the qualified electors of this Commonwealth  
29 as separate ballot questions at the first primary, general or  
30 municipal election occurring at least three months after the

- 1 proposed constitutional amendments are passed by the General
- 2 Assembly.