
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 857 Session of
2001

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

AS AMENDED ON THIRD CONSIDERATION, JUNE 10, 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 BEING NOMINATED TO FILL A <—
4 VACANCY OR filing a nominating petition to become a district
5 justice and before assuming office as a judge of the traffic
6 court in the City of Philadelphia.

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

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

11 That section 12(b) of Article V be amended and the section be
12 amended by adding a subsection to read:

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

15 * * *

16 (b) [Judges of the traffic court in the City of Philadelphia
17 and justices] Justices of the peace shall be members of the bar
18 of the Supreme Court or shall complete a course of training and
19 instruction in the duties of their respective offices and pass

1 an examination prior to [assuming office] BEING NOMINATED TO <—
2 FILL VACANCIES PURSUANT TO SECTION 13(B) OR TO filing a
3 nomination petition for their respective offices. Such courses
4 and 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~~ THIS proposed constitutional ~~amendments~~ <—
13 AMENDMENT, the Secretary of the Commonwealth shall proceed <—
14 immediately to comply with the advertising requirements of
15 section 1 of Article XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and
16 shall transmit the required advertisements to two newspapers in
17 every county in which such newspapers are published in
18 sufficient time after passage of ~~these~~ THIS proposed <—
19 constitutional ~~amendments~~ AMENDMENT. <—

20 (b) Upon the second passage by the General Assembly of ~~these~~ <—
21 THIS proposed constitutional ~~amendments~~ AMENDMENT, the Secretary <—
22 of the Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to comply with the
23 advertising requirements of section 1 of Article XI of the
24 Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the required
25 advertisements to two newspapers in every county in which such
26 newspapers are published in sufficient time after passage of
27 ~~these~~ THIS proposed constitutional ~~amendments~~ AMENDMENT. The <—
28 Secretary of the Commonwealth shall submit the proposed
29 constitutional ~~amendments~~ AMENDMENT under section 1 to the <—
30 qualified electors of this Commonwealth as ~~separate ballot~~ <—

1 ~~questions~~ at the first primary, general or municipal election
2 occurring at least three months after the proposed
3 constitutional ~~amendments are~~ AMENDMENT IS passed by the General <—
4 Assembly.