

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 18, 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~~, ALSO KNOWN AS <—
6 JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, OR A judge of the traffic court in the
7 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] being nominated to
3 fill vacancies pursuant to section 13(b) or to filing a
4 nomination petition for their respective offices. Such courses
5 and examinations shall be as provided by law.

6 ~~(c) Judges of the traffic court in the City of Philadelphia~~ <—
7 ~~shall be members of the bar of the Supreme Court or shall~~
8 ~~complete a course of training and instruction in the duties of~~
9 ~~their respective offices and pass an examination prior to~~
10 ~~assuming office. Such courses and examinations shall be as~~
11 ~~provided by law.~~

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

20 (b) Upon the second passage by the General Assembly of this
21 proposed constitutional amendment, the Secretary of the
22 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 this proposed constitutional amendment. The Secretary of the
28 Commonwealth shall submit the proposed constitutional amendment
29 under section 1 to the qualified electors of this Commonwealth
30 at the first primary, general or municipal election occurring at

- 1 least three months after the proposed constitutional amendment
- 2 is passed by the General Assembly.