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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE BILL

## No. 2692 Session of 2004

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INTRODUCED BY BARRAR, BOYD, CAPPELLI, CRAHALLA, DENLINGER,  
EGOLF, GABIG, GINGRICH, HUTCHINSON, JAMES, LEH, McILHATTAN,  
METCALFE, NAILOR, ROBERTS AND SCAVELLO, JUNE 9, 2004

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, JUNE 9, 2004

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A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth  
2 of Pennsylvania, providing for concurrence of three-fifths of  
3 all members of each House for the passage of measures  
4 imposing new taxes or license fees.

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

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

9 That section 4 of Article III be amended to read:

10 § 4. Consideration of bills.

11 Every bill shall be considered on three different days in  
12 each House. All amendments made thereto shall be printed for the  
13 use of the members before the final vote is taken on the bill  
14 and before the final vote is taken, upon written request  
15 addressed to the presiding officer of either House by at least  
16 25% of the members elected to that House, any bill shall be read  
17 at length in that House. No bill shall become a law, unless on  
18 its final passage the vote is taken by yeas and nays, the names

1 of the persons voting for and against it are entered on the  
2 journal, and a majority of the members elected to each House is  
3 recorded thereon as voting in its favor. No tax or license fee  
4 or increase of any tax or license fee shall be imposed except  
5 pursuant to an act of the General Assembly adopted with the  
6 concurrence of three-fifths of all members of each House.

7 Section 2. That no inconvenience may arise from changes in  
8 Article III of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, it is hereby  
9 declared that this amendment shall not apply to any tax or  
10 license fee authorized by an act of the General Assembly but not  
11 effective on the effective date of this amendment.

12 Section 3. (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 this proposed constitutional amendment  
29 to the qualified electors of this Commonwealth at the first  
30 primary, general or municipal election which meets the

1 requirements of and is in conformance with section 1 of Article  
2 XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and which occurs at least  
3 three months after the proposed constitutional amendment is  
4 passed by the General Assembly.