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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 2662 Session of  
2008

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INTRODUCED BY KORTZ, BEAR, BENNINGTON, BOYD, CALTAGIRONE,  
CAPPELLI, CONKLIN, CUTLER, DePASQUALE, GALLOWAY, GEORGE,  
GIBBONS, GRUCELA, HORNAMAN, LENTZ, MANTZ, MENSCH, RAMALEY,  
ROCK, SHIMKUS, SIPTROTH, McILVAINE SMITH, M. SMITH, SWANGER,  
TANGRETTI AND VULAKOVICH, JUNE 23, 2008

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, JUNE 23, 2008

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AN ACT

1 Providing for a nonbinding Statewide referendum relating to  
2 convening a limited constitutional convention on the  
3 structure and function of the General Assembly.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Legislative findings.

7 The General Assembly finds that the electors of this  
8 Commonwealth should be given the opportunity to voice their  
9 opinion if they wish to restructure the General Assembly. The  
10 power of the government rests within the people as stated in  
11 section 2 of Article I of the Constitution of Pennsylvania:

12 "All power is inherent in the people, and all free  
13 governments are founded on their authority and instituted  
14 for their peace, safety and happiness. For the  
15 advancement of these ends they have at all times an  
16 inalienable and indefeasible right to alter, reform or  
17 abolish their government in such manner as they may think

1           proper."

2   Section 2.   Authorization.

3       The Secretary of the Commonwealth shall cause to be placed on  
4   the ballot, at the primary or general election occurring at  
5   least 30 days next following the effective date of this section,  
6   a nonbinding referendum to determine the will of the electorate  
7   of this Commonwealth with respect to the structure and function  
8   of the General Assembly.

9   Section 3.   Form of question.

10       The referendum question shall be in substantially the  
11   following form:

12           Shall the Pennsylvania General Assembly convene a limited  
13           constitutional convention on the structure and function  
14           of the General Assembly?

15   Section 4.   Conduct of election.

16       The referendum shall be advertised and conducted in  
17   accordance with the provisions of the act of June 3, 1937  
18   (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code.

19   Section 5.   Effective date.

20       This act shall take effect immediately.