

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1078 Session of
2011

INTRODUCED BY FARNESE, FONTANA, WASHINGTON AND MENSCH,
JUNE 17, 2011

REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, JUNE 17, 2011

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth
2 of Pennsylvania, providing for restriction of divorce.

3 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
4 hereby resolves as follows:

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

7 That Article I be amended by adding a section to read:

8 § 29. Restriction of divorce.

9 No law permitting the dissolution of marital status shall be
10 valid except in the case of willful and malicious desertion,
11 cruel and barbarous treatment of a spouse, endangerment of the
12 life or health of a spouse, a bigamous marriage or imposition of
13 such indignities as to render a spouse's condition intolerable
14 and life burdensome.

15 Section 2. (a) Upon the first passage by the General
16 Assembly of this proposed constitutional amendment, the
17 Secretary of the Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to
18 comply with the advertising requirements of section 1 of Article

1 XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the
2 required advertisements to two newspapers in every county in
3 which such newspapers are published in sufficient time after
4 passage of this proposed constitutional amendment.

5 (b) Upon the second passage by the General Assembly of this
6 proposed constitutional amendment, the Secretary of the
7 Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to comply with the
8 advertising requirements of section 1 of Article XI of the
9 Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the required
10 advertisements to two newspapers in every county in which such
11 newspapers are published in sufficient time after passage of
12 this proposed constitutional amendment. The Secretary of the
13 Commonwealth shall submit this proposed constitutional amendment
14 to the qualified electors of this Commonwealth at the first
15 primary, general or municipal election which meets the
16 requirements of and is in conformance with section 1 of Article
17 XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and which occurs at least
18 three months after the proposed constitutional amendment is
19 passed by the General Assembly.