

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 170 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY GREENLEAF, ERICKSON, FARNESE, WASHINGTON, FOLMER,
VANCE, ALLOWAY AND LEACH, JANUARY 18, 2013

REFERRED TO STATE GOVERNMENT, JANUARY 18, 2013

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth
2 of Pennsylvania, further providing for qualifications of
3 certain judges.

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

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

8 That section 12(b) of Article V be amended to read:

9 § 12. Qualifications of justices, judges and justices of the
10 peace.

11 * * *

12 (b) Judges of the traffic court in the City of Philadelphia
13 and justices of the peace shall be members of the bar of the
14 Supreme Court or shall complete a course of training and
15 instruction in the duties of their respective offices and pass
16 an examination prior to [assuming office] being nominated to
17 fill vacancies pursuant to section 13(b) of this article or to
18 filing a nomination petition for their respective offices. Such

1 courses and examinations shall be as provided by law.

2 Section 2. (a) Upon the first passage by the General
3 Assembly of this proposed constitutional amendment, the
4 Secretary of the Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to
5 comply with the advertising requirements of section 1 of Article
6 XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the
7 required advertisements to two newspapers in every county in
8 which such newspapers are published in sufficient time after
9 passage of this proposed constitutional amendment.

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