

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1238 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY TEPLITZ AND BREWSTER, JUNE 14, 2016

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, JUNE 14, 2016

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth
2 of Pennsylvania, providing for failure to enact a general
3 appropriation bill.

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 (1) That Article III be amended by adding a section to read:

9 § 13.1. Failure to enact a general appropriation bill.

10 (a) If a general appropriation bill is not signed into law
11 within 90 days after the beginning of a fiscal year, all bills
12 and resolutions pending in the General Assembly other than bills
13 returned as a veto under section 15 of Article IV of this
14 Constitution and the general appropriation bill, are void and
15 may no longer be considered. Members of the General Assembly may
16 reintroduce the voided bills and resolutions after the general
17 appropriation bill is signed into law.

18 (b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), a bill or resolution may

1 be introduced or reintroduced before the general appropriation
2 bill is signed into law if three-fourths of the members of the
3 General Assembly determine, by an affirmative vote, that the
4 bill or resolution relates to a disaster emergency.

5 (c) As used in this section "disaster emergency" means those
6 conditions which may, by investigation, be found, actually or
7 likely, to:

8 (1) affect seriously the safety, health or welfare of a
9 substantial number of citizens of this Commonwealth or
10 preclude the operation or use of essential public facilities;

11 (2) be of such magnitude or severity as to require
12 essential State supplementation of county and local efforts
13 or resources exerted or utilized in alleviating the danger,
14 damage, suffering or hardship faced; and

15 (3) have been caused by forces beyond the control of
16 man, by reason of civil disorder or by riot or disturbance.

17 Section 2. (a) Upon the first passage by the General
18 Assembly of this proposed constitutional amendment, the
19 Secretary of the Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to
20 comply with the advertising requirements of section 1 of Article
21 XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the
22 required advertisements to two newspapers in every county in
23 which such newspapers are published in sufficient time after
24 passage of this proposed constitutional amendment.

25 (b) Upon the second passage by the General Assembly of this
26 proposed constitutional amendment, the Secretary of the
27 Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to comply with the
28 advertising requirements of section 1 of Article XI of the
29 Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the required
30 advertisements to two newspapers in every county in which such

1 newspapers are published in sufficient time after passage of
2 this proposed constitutional amendment. The Secretary of the
3 Commonwealth shall submit this proposed constitutional amendment
4 to the qualified electors of this Commonwealth at the first
5 primary, general or municipal election which meets the
6 requirements of and is in conformance with section 1 of Article
7 XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and which occurs at least
8 three months after the proposed constitutional amendment is
9 passed by the General Assembly.