A RESOLUTION


WHEREAS, Over the course of this Commonwealth's history, there have been five versions of the Constitution of Pennsylvania that were ratified in 1776, 1790, 1838, 1874 and 1968; and

WHEREAS, On September 28, 1776, the first Constitution of Pennsylvania was adopted by a Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia; and

WHEREAS, The principal drafters of the first Constitution of Pennsylvania included Benjamin Franklin, George Bryan and James Cannon; and

WHEREAS, The 1874 version of the Constitution of Pennsylvania was adopted on November 3, 1873, by a Constitutional Convention, ratified by voters in this Commonwealth at a special election held on December 16, 1873, and went into effect on January 1, 1874; and
WHEREAS, A proposed amendment to the Constitution of Pennsylvania must be approved by any of the following:

(1) A majority of the Senate and a majority of the House of Representatives in two consecutive sessions and ratified by the voters of this Commonwealth.

(2) A majority of the members of a Constitutional Convention called by the voters in this Commonwealth and submitted to and ratified by the voters of this Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, The Constitution of Pennsylvania was last amended on November 7, 2017, when voters in this Commonwealth ratified an amendment to the Constitution of Pennsylvania regarding tax exclusion for homestead property; and

WHEREAS, The Senate Library's collection includes a nine-volume set of books titled, "Reference Manuals," issued by the 1968 Constitutional Convention; and

WHEREAS, The Senate Library's collection includes copies of all five versions of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and the proceedings of each Constitutional Convention; and

WHEREAS, The Senate Library has many resources for legal research on the Constitution of Pennsylvania, including, "The Pennsylvania Constitution: A Treatise on Rights and Liberties" by Ken Gormley and "Pennsylvania Constitutional Law" by Robert E. Woodside; therefore be it