## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## **HOUSE BILL**

No. 2660 Session of 2022

INTRODUCED BY KAUFFMAN, STAMBAUGH, RYAN, GROVE, DIAMOND, KAIL, MOUL, ZIMMERMAN, GLEIM, KEEFER, HERSHEY AND COX, JUNE 7, 2022

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, JUNE 7, 2022

## A JOINT RESOLUTION

- 1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth
- of Pennsylvania, further providing for judicial
- 3 administration.
- 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 10(c) of Article V be amended to read:
- 9 § 10. Judicial administration.
- 10 \* \* \*
- 11 (c) The Supreme Court shall have the power to prescribe
- 12 general rules governing practice, procedure and the conduct of
- 13 all courts, justices of the peace and all officers serving
- 14 process or enforcing orders, judgments or decrees of any court
- 15 or justice of the peace, including the power to provide for
- 16 assignment and reassignment of classes of actions or classes of
- 17 appeals among the several courts as the needs of justice shall
- 18 require, and for admission to the bar and to practice law, and

- 1 the administration of all courts and supervision of all officers
- 2 of the Judicial Branch, if such rules are consistent with this
- 3 Constitution and neither abridge, enlarge nor modify the
- 4 substantive rights of any litigant, nor affect the right of the
- 5 General Assembly to determine the jurisdiction of any court or
- 6 justice of the peace, nor suspend nor alter any statute of
- 7 limitation or repose. All laws shall be suspended to the extent
- 8 that they are inconsistent with rules prescribed under these
- 9 provisions. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the
- 10 General Assembly may by statute provide for the manner of
- 11 testimony of child victims or child material witnesses in
- 12 criminal proceedings, including the use of videotaped
- 13 depositions or testimony by closed-circuit television.
- 14 Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the General
- 15 Assembly may, by statute, establish venue in civil cases in the
- 16 <u>Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.</u>
- 17 \* \* \*
- 18 Section 2. (a) Upon the first passage by the General
- 19 Assembly of this proposed constitutional amendment, the
- 20 Secretary of the Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to
- 21 comply with the advertising requirements of section 1 of Article
- 22 XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the
- 23 required advertisements to two newspapers in every county in
- 24 which such newspapers are published in sufficient time after
- 25 passage of this proposed constitutional amendment.
- 26 (b) Upon the second passage by the General Assembly of this
- 27 proposed constitutional amendment, the Secretary of the
- 28 Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to comply with the
- 29 advertising requirements of section 1 of Article XI of the
- 30 Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the required

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