

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 735 Session of 2021

INTRODUCED BY J. WARD, MASTRIANO, ARGALL, BARTOLOTTA, MARTIN,  
YAW, HUTCHINSON, PHILLIPS-HILL, STEFANO, MENSCH, PITTMAN,  
BAKER, AUMENT, SCAVELLO AND GEBHARD, JUNE 11, 2021

AS AMENDED ON THIRD CONSIDERATION, JUNE 23, 2021

A JOINT RESOLUTION

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

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 1 of Article VII be amended to read:

9 § 1. Qualifications of electors.

10 (a) Every citizen [21] 18 years of age, possessing the <--  
11 following qualifications, shall be entitled to vote at all  
12 elections subject, however, to such laws requiring and  
13 regulating the registration of electors as the General Assembly  
14 may enact.

15 1. He or she shall have been a citizen of the United States  
16 at least one month.

17 2. He or she shall have resided in the State 90 days

1 immediately preceding the election.

2 3. He or she shall have resided in the election district  
3 where he or she shall offer to vote at least 60 days immediately  
4 preceding the election, except that if qualified to vote in an  
5 election district prior to removal of residence, he or she may,  
6 if a resident of Pennsylvania, vote in the election district  
7 from which he or she removed his or her residence within 60 days  
8 preceding the election.

9 (b) In addition to the qualifications under subsection (a)  
10 of this section, a qualified elector shall provide a valid  
11 identification at each election in accordance with the  
12 following:

13 1. When voting in person, the qualified elector shall  
14 present a valid identification before receiving a ballot to vote  
15 in person.

16 2. When not voting in person, the qualified elector shall  
17 provide a ~~copy~~ PROOF of a valid identification with his or her <--  
18 ballot.

19 (c) ~~Notwithstanding any law regarding the types of valid~~ <--  
20 ~~identifications necessary for a qualified elector to comply with~~  
21 ~~subsection (b), valid identifications shall include, but not be~~  
22 ~~limited to, a valid government issued identification. FOR~~ <--  
23 PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, THE TERM "VALID IDENTIFICATION" MEANS  
24 ANY VALID GOVERNMENT-ISSUED IDENTIFICATION, UNLESS OTHERWISE  
25 PROVIDED FOR BY LAW.

26 Section 2. (a) Upon the first passage by the General  
27 Assembly of this proposed constitutional amendment, the  
28 Secretary of the Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to  
29 comply with the advertising requirements of section 1 of Article  
30 XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the

1 required advertisements to two newspapers in every county in  
2 which such newspapers are published in sufficient time after  
3 passage of this proposed constitutional amendment.

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