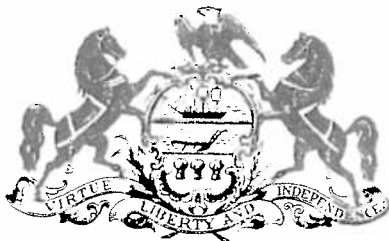


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MEMORANDUM

To: All House Members
From: Representative Bernie O'Neill *BS*
Date: January 11, 2011
Subject: Public Official Compensation Resolution (former HR 581)

In the near future, I intend to re-introduce a resolution that will direct the House State Government Committee to conduct a study of the various public official compensation provisions of the Pennsylvania Constitution. The resolution will call on the State Government Committee to review these constitutional directives, to hold public hearings on the matter and make recommendations as to whether amendments to the Constitution are necessary to erase confusion regarding the meaning of these provisions.

As you know, following the enactment pay raise legislation last session, there was a great deal of discussion among policy makers, the media and the public as to meaning and implications of the following constitutional provisions relating to public official compensation, and whether they may need to be modified and/or clarified:

- Article II, section 8, providing for compensation of members of the General Assembly.
- Article III, section 26, providing for retirement allowances and pensions of members of the General Assembly;
- Article III, section 27, prohibiting the term extension of any public officer or the increase or decrease in his salary after his election or appointment;
- Article V, section 16, providing for the compensation of justices, judges and magisterial district judges;
- Schedule No. 1, section 17, providing that the General Assembly shall fix and determine the compensation of judges; and
- Schedule No. 1, section 29, providing for the compensation of all state, county, city, ward, borough and township officers.

I believe that this resolution will lead to a meaningful and productive discussion of public official compensation issues.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Connie McClure in my Harrisburg office at 705-7170 or by e-mailing cmclure@pahousegop.com.

Thank you for your consideration of this legislation.