

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing integrated amendments to the Constitution of the
2 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, further providing for
3 Governor's budgets and financial plan, for appropriations and
4 for surplus.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby resolves as follows:

7 Section 1. The following integrated amendments to the
8 Constitution of Pennsylvania are proposed in accordance with
9 Article XI:

10 (1) That section 12 of Article VIII be amended to read:

11 § 12. Governor's budgets [and financial plan], financial plan,
12 cost savings plan and performance criteria.

13 Annually, at the times set by law, the Governor shall submit
14 to the General Assembly:

15 (a) A balanced operating budget for the ensuing fiscal year,
16 abiding by the provisions contained within sections 13 and 14 of
17 Article VIII, setting forth in detail (i) proposed expenditures

classified by department or agency and by program and (ii) estimated revenues from all sources. If estimated revenues and available surplus are less than proposed expenditures, the Governor shall recommend specific additional sources of revenue sufficient to pay the deficiency and the estimated revenue to be derived from each source;

(b) A capital budget for the ensuing fiscal year setting forth in detail proposed expenditures to be financed from the proceeds of obligations of the Commonwealth or of its agencies or authorities or from operating funds; and

(c) A financial plan for not less than the next succeeding five fiscal years, which plan shall include for each such fiscal year:

(i) Projected operating expenditures classified by department or agency and by program, in reasonable detail, and estimated revenues, by major categories, from existing and additional sources, and

(ii) Projected expenditures for capital projects specifically itemized by purpose, and the proposed sources of financing each.

(d) A reasonably detailed plan for cost savings, innovation and efficiencies for each State agency which includes a list of specific expenditures for which savings to the Commonwealth are identified.

(e) A reasonably detailed projection of supplemental appropriations for the current year which shall be updated by June 1.

(f) Reasonably detailed performance criteria for each State program.

(2) That section 13 of Article VIII be amended to read:

1 § 13. [Appropriations] Balanced budget and State
2 appropriations.

3 (a) Operating budget appropriations made by the General
4 Assembly shall not exceed the actual and estimated revenues and
5 surplus available in the same fiscal year.

6 (b) The enacted budget shall appropriate money for the
7 Commonwealth's pensions in the amount necessary to fund the
8 actuarially required contributions of all such pension funds
9 during the budget period.

10 (c) The General Assembly shall adopt a capital budget for
11 the ensuing fiscal year.

12 (d) The Governor shall not sign or allow budget
13 appropriations to become law if the total appropriations exceed
14 the certified revenues for the same fiscal year.

15 (e) The State Treasurer shall deny any payments which exceed
16 enacted appropriations. If a payment is submitted and the
17 payment exceeds enacted appropriations, the treasurer shall
18 provide written notification to the General Assembly.

19 (3) That section 14 of Article VIII be amended to read:

20 § 14. [Surplus] Financial transparency and accountability.

21 (a) All surplus of operating funds at the end of the fiscal
22 year shall be appropriated during the ensuing fiscal year by the
23 General Assembly.

24 (b) By June 1 of each year, the Governor shall provide the
25 General Assembly with a detailed report on all potential
26 unexpended appropriations. At the end of the fiscal year, all
27 unexpended appropriations shall be placed into a restricted
28 account and appropriated during the ensuing fiscal year by the
29 General Assembly.

30 (c) By May 15 of each year, the Governor shall provide the

1 General Assembly a detailed report of specific appropriations of
2 the current fiscal year which may need to be carried over to the
3 ensuing fiscal year. The carryover may not exceed October 31 of
4 the ensuing fiscal year.

5 (d) Any cost savings created by the executive branch shall
6 be placed in a restricted account as the savings occur and
7 appropriated during the current or ensuing fiscal year by the
8 General Assembly.

9 (e) Any State funds recovered through litigation shall be
10 placed in a restricted account and appropriated by the General
11 Assembly.

12 (f) Any funds returned to the Commonwealth shall be placed
13 in a restricted account and appropriated by the General
14 Assembly.

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

23 (b) Upon the second passage by the General Assembly of these
24 proposed constitutional amendments, the Secretary of the
25 Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to comply with the
26 advertising requirements of section 1 of Article XI of the
27 Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the required
28 advertisements to two newspapers in every county in which such
29 newspapers are published in sufficient time after passage of
30 these proposed constitutional amendments. The Secretary of the

1 Commonwealth shall submit the proposed constitutional amendments
2 under section 1 to the qualified electors of this Commonwealth
3 as a single ballot question at the first primary, general or
4 municipal election which meets the requirements of and is in
5 conformance with section 1 of Article XI of the Constitution of
6 Pennsylvania and which occurs at least three months after the
7 proposed constitutional amendments are passed by the General
8 Assembly.