

## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## HOUSE BILL

No. 957 Session of  
1991

INTRODUCED BY FREIND, BOYES, FAIRCHILD, O'BRIEN, HAGARTY,  
CALTAGIRONE, ANGSTADT, GODSHALL, MERRY, STRITTMATTER,  
ARMSTRONG, CAWLEY, TRELLO, RAYMOND, VROON, NAHILL, BELARDI,  
GAMBLE, BARLEY, HECKLER, CLARK, CESSAR, GEIST, SAURMAN, NOYE,  
JOHNSON, DEMPSEY, E. Z. TAYLOR, KENNEY, GERLACH, MELIO,  
FLICK, PETRARCA, KOSINSKI, FARGO, G. SNYDER, CLYMER, BATTISTO  
AND KING, APRIL 2, 1991

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, APRIL 2, 1991

## A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth  
2 of Pennsylvania, establishing trial by jury as a substantive  
3 right.

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

1 assignment and reassignment of classes of actions or classes of  
2 appeals among the several courts as the needs of justice shall  
3 require, and for admission to the bar and to practice law, and  
4 the administration of all courts and supervision of all officers  
5 of the Judicial Branch, if such rules are consistent with this  
6 Constitution and neither abridge, enlarge nor modify the  
7 substantive rights of any litigant, nor affect the right of the  
8 General Assembly to determine the jurisdiction of any court or  
9 justice of the peace, nor suspend nor alter any statute of  
10 limitation or repose. In criminal common pleas court cases, the  
11 Commonwealth and the defendant shall have a right to a trial by  
12 jury. All laws shall be suspended to the extent that they are  
13 inconsistent with rules prescribed under these provisions.

14 \* \* \*