

---

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

---

HOUSE BILL

No. 914 Session of  
1997

---

INTRODUCED BY BOSCOLA, READSHAW, WOGAN, JAMES, STEELMAN AND  
PRESTON, MARCH 13, 1997

---

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, MARCH 13, 1997

---

AN ACT

1 Providing for a Statewide nonbinding referendum on the matter of  
2 State funding for the county court system.

3 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
4 hereby enacts as follows:

5 Section 1. Short title.

6 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Statewide  
7 Nonbinding County Court Systems Referendum.

8 Section 2. Authorization.

9 The Secretary of the Commonwealth shall cause to be placed on  
10 the ballot, at the primary or general election occurring at  
11 least 30 days next following the effective date of this act, a  
12 nonbinding referendum to determine the will of the electorate of  
13 this Commonwealth with respect to the funding of the county  
14 court systems.

15 Section 3. Form of question.

16 The referendum question shall be in substantially the  
17 following form:

1 Presently, the county court systems throughout this  
2 Commonwealth are funded primarily by county real estate  
3 taxes. The Pennsylvania Supreme Court has recently ruled  
4 that it is the Commonwealth's obligation to fund a  
5 unified judicial system. Do you support the proposal that  
6 State tax dollars, as opposed to county real estate tax  
7 dollars, should be used to fund the county court systems?

8 Section 4. Conduct of election.

9 The referendum shall be advertised and conducted under the  
10 act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the  
11 Pennsylvania Election Code, and the Department of State shall  
12 publish the results in the Pennsylvania Bulletin.

13 Section 5. Effective date.

14 This act shall take effect immediately.