

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1301 Session of
2002

INTRODUCED BY ORIE, HELFRICK, COSTA, KUKOVICH, BODACK, LOGAN,
LEMOND, BELL, WAUGH, O'PAKE, BOSCOLA, C. WILLIAMS AND STACK,
FEBRUARY 19, 2002

REFERRED TO MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, FEBRUARY 19, 2002

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth
2 of Pennsylvania, providing for taxation exemptions for
3 veterans and surviving spouses of veterans.

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 Article VIII be amended by adding a section to read:

9 § 18. Taxation exemptions for veterans and surviving spouses of
10 veterans.

11 (a) Any citizen and resident of this Commonwealth now or
12 hereafter honorably discharged or released under honorable
13 circumstances from active service, in time of war or other
14 emergency as, from time to time, defined by the General
15 Assembly, in any branch of the armed forces shall be entitled
16 annually to a deduction from the amount of any tax bill for
17 taxes on real and personal property, or both, in the sum of 2.8%

1 of \$5,000 or \$140 for any such tax bill. The deduction or
2 cancellation shall not be altered or repealed.

3 (b) Any person described in this section who has been or
4 shall be declared by the United States Veterans Administration,
5 or its successor, to have a service-connected disability shall
6 be entitled to such further deduction from taxation as from time
7 to time may be provided by law.

8 (c) The surviving spouse of any citizen and resident of this
9 Commonwealth who died or shall die while on active duty in time
10 of war or of other emergency as so defined in any such service
11 shall be entitled, during that person's widowhood, and while a
12 resident of this Commonwealth, to the deduction or cancellation
13 in this section provided for honorably discharged veterans and
14 to such further deduction as from time to time may be provided
15 by law.

16 (d) The surviving spouse of any citizen and resident of this
17 Commonwealth who has had or shall hereafter have active service
18 in time of war or of other emergency as so defined in any branch
19 of the armed forces and who died or shall die while on active
20 duty in any branch of the armed forces or who has been or may
21 hereafter be honorably discharged or released under honorable
22 circumstances from active service in time of war or of other
23 emergency as so defined in any branch of the armed forces shall
24 be entitled, during that person's widowhood, and while a
25 resident of this Commonwealth, to the deduction or cancellation
26 in this section provided for honorably discharged veterans and
27 to such further deductions as from time to time may be provided
28 by law.

29 Section 2. (a) Upon the first passage by the General
30 Assembly of this proposed constitutional amendment, the

1 Secretary of the Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to
2 comply with the advertising requirements of section 1 of Article
3 XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the
4 required advertisements to two newspapers in every county in
5 which such newspapers are published in sufficient time after
6 passage of this proposed constitutional amendment.

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