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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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**HOUSE BILL**  
**No. 2381** Session of  
2006

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INTRODUCED BY BOYD, METCALFE, YEWIC, TRUE, FORCIER, ALLEN, ARGALL, ARMSTRONG, BAKER, BALDWIN, BARRAR, BASTIAN, BIRMELIN, BUNT, CALTAGIRONE, CAPPELLI, CAUSER, CAWLEY, CLYMER, CORRIGAN, CREIGHTON, DALLY, DeLUCA, DENLINGER, ELLIS, FAIRCHILD, FEESE, FICHTER, FLEAGLE, FLICK, GABIG, GANNON, GEIST, GILLESPIE, GINGRICH, GODSHALL, GRUCELA, HABAY, HALUSKA, HARRIS, HERSHEY, HESS, HICKERNELL, HUTCHINSON, KAUFFMAN, M. KELLER, LEH, MAITLAND, MAJOR, MARKOSEK, MARSICO, McILHATTAN, McNAUGHTON, MELIO, MILLARD, R. MILLER, S. MILLER, MUSTIO, PAYNE, PERZEL, PETRARCA, PHILLIPS, PICKETT, PYLE, QUIGLEY, RAPP, REED, ROBERTS, ROHRER, SATHER, SCHRODER, B. SMITH, S. H. SMITH, SONNEY, STABACK, STAIRS, STERN, R. STEVENSON, T. STEVENSON, TANGRETTI, E. Z. TAYLOR, TIGUE, TURZAI, WILT, ZUG, WOJNAROSKI AND HENNESSEY, JANUARY 24, 2006

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AS AMENDED ON THIRD CONSIDERATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
JUNE 6, 2006

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A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 ~~Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth~~ <—  
2 ~~of Pennsylvania, providing for marriage between one man and~~  
3 ~~one woman.~~

4 PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH <—  
5 OF PENNSYLVANIA, PROVIDING FOR MARRIAGE BETWEEN ONE MAN AND  
6 ONE WOMAN.

7 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
8 hereby resolves as follows:

9 ~~Section 1. The following amendment to the Constitution of~~ <—  
10 ~~Pennsylvania is proposed in accordance with Article XI:~~

11 ~~That Article I be amended by adding a section to read:~~

12 ~~§ 29. Marriage.~~

13 ~~Only a marriage between one man and one woman shall be valid~~

1 ~~or recognized as a marriage in this Commonwealth, and neither~~  
2 ~~the Commonwealth nor any of its political subdivisions shall~~  
3 ~~create or recognize a legal status identical or substantially~~  
4 ~~equivalent to that of marriage for unmarried individuals.~~

5 Section 2. ~~(a) Upon the first passage by the General~~  
6 ~~Assembly of this proposed constitutional amendment, the~~  
7 ~~Secretary of the Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to~~  
8 ~~comply with the advertising requirements of section 1 of Article~~  
9 ~~XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the~~  
10 ~~required advertisements to two newspapers in every county in~~  
11 ~~which such newspapers are published in sufficient time after~~  
12 ~~passage of this proposed constitutional amendment.~~

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

28 SECTION 1. THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF <—  
29 PENNSYLVANIA IS PROPOSED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE XI:

30 THAT ARTICLE I BE AMENDED BY ADDING A SECTION TO READ:

1 § 29. MARRIAGE.

2 ONLY A MARRIAGE BETWEEN ONE MAN AND ONE WOMAN SHALL BE VALID  
3 OR RECOGNIZED AS A MARRIAGE IN THIS COMMONWEALTH, AND NEITHER  
4 THE COMMONWEALTH NOR ANY OF ITS POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS SHALL  
5 CREATE OR RECOGNIZE A LEGAL UNION IDENTICAL OR SUBSTANTIALLY  
6 EQUIVALENT TO THAT OF MARRIAGE FOR UNMARRIED INDIVIDUALS.

7 SECTION 2. (A) UPON THE FIRST PASSAGE BY THE GENERAL  
8 ASSEMBLY OF THIS PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT, THE  
9 SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH SHALL PROCEED IMMEDIATELY TO  
10 COMPLY WITH THE ADVERTISING REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 1 OF ARTICLE  
11 XI OF THE CONSTITUTION OF PENNSYLVANIA AND SHALL TRANSMIT THE  
12 REQUIRED ADVERTISEMENTS TO TWO NEWSPAPERS IN EVERY COUNTY IN  
13 WHICH SUCH NEWSPAPERS ARE PUBLISHED IN SUFFICIENT TIME AFTER  
14 PASSAGE OF THIS PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

15 (B) UPON THE SECOND PASSAGE BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THIS  
16 PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT, THE SECRETARY OF THE  
17 COMMONWEALTH SHALL PROCEED IMMEDIATELY TO COMPLY WITH THE  
18 ADVERTISING REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 1 OF ARTICLE XI OF THE  
19 CONSTITUTION OF PENNSYLVANIA AND SHALL TRANSMIT THE REQUIRED  
20 ADVERTISEMENTS TO TWO NEWSPAPERS IN EVERY COUNTY IN WHICH SUCH  
21 NEWSPAPERS ARE PUBLISHED IN SUFFICIENT TIME AFTER PASSAGE OF  
22 THIS PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT. THE SECRETARY OF THE  
23 COMMONWEALTH SHALL SUBMIT THIS PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT  
24 TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THIS COMMONWEALTH AT THE FIRST  
25 PRIMARY, GENERAL OR MUNICIPAL ELECTION WHICH MEETS THE  
26 REQUIREMENTS OF AND IS IN CONFORMANCE WITH SECTION 1 OF ARTICLE  
27 XI OF THE CONSTITUTION OF PENNSYLVANIA AND WHICH OCCURS AT LEAST  
28 THREE MONTHS AFTER THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT IS  
29 PASSED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.