

## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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**HOUSE BILL****No. 2692** Session of  
2008

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INTRODUCED BY JOSEPHS, KORTZ, BENNINGTON, COHEN, DePASQUALE,  
FRANKEL, FREEMAN, GIBBONS, GODSHALL, GOODMAN, HANNA,  
HENNESSEY, HORNAMAN, JAMES, KING, KIRKLAND, McILVAINE SMITH,  
NICKOL, PERZEL, RAMALEY, SIPTROTH, SWANGER, THOMAS AND  
YOUNGBLOOD, JULY 1, 2008

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, JULY 1, 2008

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## A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth  
2 of Pennsylvania, further providing for absentee voting.

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

5 Section 1. The following amendment to the Constitution of  
6 Pennsylvania is proposed in accordance with Article XI:

7 That section 14(a) of Article VII be amended to read:

8 § 14. Absentee voting.

9 (a) The Legislature shall, by general law, provide a manner  
10 in which, and the time and place at which, qualified electors  
11 may vote by mail, including, but not limited to, any military  
12 elector, as defined by law, and qualified electors who may, on  
13 the occurrence of any election, be absent from the municipality  
14 of their residence, because their duties, occupation or business  
15 require them to be elsewhere or who, on the occurrence of any  
16 election, are unable to attend at their proper polling places

1 because of illness or physical disability or who will not attend  
2 a polling place because of the observance of a religious holiday  
3 or who cannot vote because of election day duties, in the case  
4 of a county employee, may vote, and for the return and canvass  
5 of their votes in the election district in which they  
6 respectively reside.

7 \* \* \*

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

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