

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. **82** Session of
2009

INTRODUCED BY O'PAKE, FONTANA, COSTA, ORIE, FOLMER, BROWNE,
LOGAN, EARLL AND KASUNIC, JANUARY 29, 2009

REFERRED TO STATE GOVERNMENT, JANUARY 29, 2009

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth
2 of Pennsylvania, reducing the size of the General Assembly.

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 16 of Article II be amended to read:

8 § 16. Legislative districts.

9 The Commonwealth shall be divided into [50] 40 senatorial and
10 [203] 121 representative districts, which shall be composed of
11 compact and contiguous territory as nearly equal in population
12 as practicable. Each senatorial district shall elect one
13 Senator, and each representative district one Representative.
14 Unless absolutely necessary no county, city, incorporated town,
15 borough, township or ward shall be divided in forming either a
16 senatorial or representative district.

17 Section 2. (a) Upon the first passage by the General
18 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.

22 Section 3. The amendment of section 16 of Article II of the
23 Constitution of Pennsylvania shall become effective for the term
24 of service beginning on December 1, 2011.