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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE BILL

No. 1453 Session of  
2010

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INTRODUCED BY O'PAKE, STOUT, MUSTO, M. WHITE, FONTANA, LOGAN,  
WASHINGTON, EARLL, HUGHES, WAUGH AND FARNESE, AUGUST 24, 2010

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REFERRED TO STATE GOVERNMENT, AUGUST 24, 2010

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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 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 [who may, on the occurrence of any election, be absent from the  
12 municipality of their residence, because their duties,  
13 occupation or business require them to be elsewhere or who, on  
14 the occurrence of any election, are unable to attend at their  
15 proper polling places because of illness or physical disability  
16 or who will not attend a polling place because of the observance  
17 of a religious holiday or who cannot vote because of election  
18 day duties, in the case of a county employee,] may vote apart

1 from physically appearing at their designated polling station on  
2 the day of an election, and for the return and canvass of their  
3 votes in the election district in which they respectively  
4 reside.

5 (b) For purposes of this section, "municipality" means a  
6 city, borough, incorporated town, township or any similar  
7 general purpose unit of government which may be created by the  
8 General Assembly.

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

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

1 passed by the General Assembly.