
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 153 Session of
2011

INTRODUCED BY S. H. SMITH, TURZAI, PERRY, MUSTIO, ADOLPH, BLOOM,
BOYD, CARROLL, CHRISTIANA, CONKLIN, CREIGHTON, DALEY, DeLUCA,
DUNBAR, ELLIS, EVANKOVICH, J. EVANS, EVERETT, FARRY, GILLEN,
GILLESPIE, GINGRICH, GODSHALL, GRELL, GROVE, HARRIS,
HORNAMAN, F. KELLER, M. K. KELLER, MAHER, MARSHALL, MARSICO,
MOUL, MULLERY, MURT, PETRI, PRESTON, PYLE, QUIGLEY, READSHAW,
REED, ROAE, ROCK, SACCONI, SANTARSIERO, SANTONI, SAYLOR,
SCAVELLO, SCHRODER, SIMMONS, STEPHENS, SWANGER, TALLMAN,
TOOHIL, VULAKOVICH, WAGNER, WATSON, DELOZIER, BARBIN,
CALTAGIRONE, HELM, WHITE, KILLION, M. SMITH, KORTZ, MAHONEY,
TRUITT, PEIFER, RAVENSTAHL, DEASY, BEAR AND HENNESSEY,
APRIL 27, 2011

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, APRIL 27, 2011

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 senatorial and
10 [203] 153 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.

1 Unless absolutely necessary no county, city, incorporated town,
2 borough, township or ward shall be divided in forming either a
3 senatorial or representative district.

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

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

27 Section 3. Upon ratification by the electors, the General
28 Assembly shall enact legislation to implement this
29 constitutional amendment so that it applies for the first time
30 to the first session of the General Assembly which begins after

1 the 2020 reapportionment.