

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1798 Session of
2011

INTRODUCED BY JOSEPHS, MANN, FABRIZIO AND PAYTON, JULY 26, 2011

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, JULY 26, 2011

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth
2 of Pennsylvania, further providing for election and
3 registration laws.

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

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

8 That section 6 of Article VII be amended to read:

9 § 6. Election and registration laws.

10 All laws regulating the holding of elections by the citizens,
11 or for the registration of electors, shall be uniform throughout
12 the State, except that laws regulating and requiring the
13 registration of electors may be enacted to apply to cities only,
14 provided that such laws be uniform for cities of the same class,
15 and except further, that the General Assembly shall by general
16 law, permit the use of voting machines, or other mechanical
17 devices for registering or recording and computing the vote, at
18 all elections or primaries, in any county, city, borough,
19 incorporated town or township of the Commonwealth, at the option

1 of the electors of such county, city, borough, incorporated town
2 or township, without being obliged to require the use of such
3 voting machines or mechanical devices in any other county, city,
4 borough, incorporated town or township, under such regulations
5 with reference thereto as the General Assembly may from time to
6 time prescribe. The General Assembly shall, by general law,
7 provide a manner by which qualified electors vote at local
8 polling places that shall not include the requirement to present
9 photo identification in order to vote, except as required by
10 Federal law. The General Assembly may, from time to time,
11 prescribe the number and duties of election officers in any
12 political subdivision of the Commonwealth in which voting
13 machines or other mechanical devices authorized by this section
14 may be used.

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

23 (b) Upon the second passage by the General Assembly of this
24 proposed constitutional amendment, the Secretary of the
25 Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to comply with the
26 advertising requirements of section 1 of Article XI of the
27 Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the required
28 advertisements to two newspapers in every county in which such
29 newspapers are published in sufficient time after passage of
30 this proposed constitutional amendment. The Secretary of the

1 Commonwealth shall submit this proposed constitutional amendment
2 to the qualified electors of this Commonwealth at the first
3 primary, general or municipal election which meets the
4 requirements of and is in conformance with section 1 of Article
5 XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and which occurs at least
6 three months after the proposed constitutional amendment is
7 passed by the General Assembly.