

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 153 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY KNOWLES, TURZAI, REED, METCALFE, DUNBAR, MUSTIO, D. COSTA, GREINER, BLOOM, MACKENZIE, SAYLOR, CORBIN, SACCONI, HELM, BARRAR, MULLERY, M. K. KELLER, GRELL, KAUFFMAN, KAVULICH, HEFFLEY, CARROLL, ROAE, A. HARRIS, MENTZER, DEASY, GROVE, TRUITT, MAJOR, MURT, TALLMAN, MARSICO, FEE, DeLUCA, BENNINGHOFF, GINGRICH, PEIFER, ROZZI, WATSON, GILLEN, SIMMONS, DELOZIER, WHEELAND AND ENGLISH, JANUARY 22, 2015

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, APRIL 21, 2015

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~~ 151 representative districts, which shall be composed <--
11 of compact and contiguous territory as nearly equal in
12 population as practicable. Each senatorial district shall elect
13 one Senator, and each representative district one
14 Representative. Unless absolutely necessary no county, city,

1 incorporated town, borough, township or ward shall be divided in
2 forming either a senatorial or representative district.

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

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

26 Section 3. Upon ratification by the electors, the General
27 Assembly shall enact legislation to implement this
28 constitutional amendment so that it applies for the first time
29 to the first session of the General Assembly which begins after
30 the 2020 reapportionment.