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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 596 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY GILLESPIE, STEPHENS, HELM, KAUFFMAN, O'NEILL,  
BARRAR, DIAMOND, TALLMAN, READSHAW, GODSHALL, STAATS, SAYLOR,  
MENTZER, ZIMMERMAN AND BRADFORD, MARCH 24, 2015

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, MARCH 24, 2015

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A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth  
2 of Pennsylvania, further providing for a public school  
3 system.

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 14 of Article III be amended to read:

9 § 14. Public school system.

10 The General Assembly shall provide for the maintenance and  
11 support of a thorough and efficient system of public education  
12 to serve the needs of the Commonwealth. The funding mechanism by  
13 which the General Assembly provides for substantial and general  
14 support for public education to satisfy its obligation under  
15 this section shall provide for the allocation and distribution  
16 of funding based upon the actual student enrollment in each  
17 school district for the school year immediately preceding the

1 school year for which funding is being allocated and distributed  
2 and not based upon the amount of funding a school district  
3 received in a previous school year.

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.