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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 2294 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY SIMMONS, COOK-ARTIS, GODSHALL, DRISCOLL,  
YOUNGBLOOD, V. BROWN, HARHART, R. BROWN, WARNER, MACKENZIE,  
KAUFFMAN, BLOOM, WHITE, PHILLIPS-HILL, HAHN, SANKEY, SAYLOR,  
REED AND CHRISTIANA, AUGUST 19, 2016

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, AUGUST 19, 2016

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A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth  
2 of Pennsylvania, further providing for exemptions and special  
3 provisions relating to taxation.

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 (1) That section 2(c) of Article VIII be amended to read:

9 § 2. Exemptions and special provisions.

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11 (c) Citizens and residents of this Commonwealth, who served  
12 in any war or armed conflict in which the United States was  
13 engaged and were honorably discharged or released under  
14 honorable circumstances from active service, shall be exempt  
15 from the payment of all real property taxes upon the residence  
16 occupied by the said citizens and residents of this Commonwealth  
17 imposed by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or any of its

1 political subdivisions if, as a result of military service, they  
2 are blind, paraplegic or double or quadruple amputees or have a  
3 service-connected disability declared by the United States  
4 Veterans Administration or its successor to be a total or [100%]  
5 70% or greater permanent disability, and if the State Veterans'  
6 Commission determines that such persons are in need of the tax  
7 exemptions granted herein. This exemption shall be extended to  
8 the unmarried surviving spouse upon the death of an eligible  
9 veteran provided that the State Veterans' Commission determines  
10 that such person is in need of the exemption.

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

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

1 XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and which occurs at least  
2 three months after the proposed constitutional amendment is  
3 passed by the General Assembly.