
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 697 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY SAINATO, BARRAR, DONATUCCI, MURT, LONGIETTI, RAPP,
BURNS, KORTZ, DRISCOLL, SCHWEYER AND READSHAW, MARCH 3, 2017

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS, MARCH 3, 2017

A JOINT RESOLUTION

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

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 2 of Article VIII be amended by adding a
9 subsection to read:

10 § 2. Exemptions and special provisions.

11 * * *

12 (d) The surviving spouse of any member of the armed forces
13 of the United States who was killed in action as determined by
14 the United States Department of Defense, or who died as a result
15 of injuries received while in active service, shall be exempt
16 from the payment of all real property taxes on the surviving
17 spouse's primary place of residence, without any restriction on

1 the spouse's relocating to another primary place of residence
2 and without any requirement that the spouse reside in this
3 Commonwealth at the time of death of the member of the armed
4 forces. The exemption shall cease if the surviving spouse
5 remarries and shall not be claimed thereafter.

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

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