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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 1050 Session of  
2017

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INTRODUCED BY EVERETT, METCALFE, RAPP, F. KELLER, BLOOM,  
KNOWLES, KAUFFMAN, WARD, MACKENZIE, HICKERNELL, SCHEMEL,  
MCGINNIS, SAYLOR, PICKETT, IRVIN, GROVE, MENTZER, B. MILLER,  
LAWRENCE, ZIMMERMAN AND KEEFER, MAY 1, 2017

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, MAY 1, 2017

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A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth  
2 of Pennsylvania, in declaration of rights, providing for a  
3 citizen's right to work.

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 Article I be amended by adding a section to read:

9 § 29. Right to work.

10 (a) It shall be the public policy of Pennsylvania that the  
11 right of a person to work may not be denied or abridged on  
12 account of membership or nonmembership in a labor union or labor  
13 organization.

14 (b) The following shall be declared to be against public  
15 policy and an illegal combination or conspiracy:

16 (1) An agreement or combination between an employer and  
17 a labor union or labor organization that prohibits a person

1 who is not a member of the union or organization from  
2 employment with the employer.

3 (2) If membership in a labor union or labor organization  
4 is a condition of employment or continuation of employment  
5 with the employer.

6 (3) If a labor union or labor organization acquires an  
7 employment monopoly in any enterprise.

8 (c) No person shall be required by an employer to become or  
9 remain a member of any labor union or labor organization as a  
10 condition of employment or continuation of employment.

11 (d) A person may not be required by an employer to abstain  
12 or refrain from membership in any labor union or labor  
13 organization as a condition of employment or continuation of  
14 employment.

15 (e) An employer may not require a person, as a condition of  
16 employment or continuation of employment, to pay dues, fees or  
17 other charges of any kind to a labor union or labor  
18 organization.

19 (f) This amendment shall not apply to a lawful contract in  
20 force on the date of the ratification of this amendment but it  
21 shall apply in all respects to contracts entered into or renewed  
22 after the date of the ratification of this amendment.

23 Section 2. (a) Upon the first passage by the General  
24 Assembly of this proposed constitutional amendment, the  
25 Secretary of the Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to  
26 comply with the advertising requirements of section 1 of Article  
27 XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the  
28 required advertisements to two newspapers in every county in  
29 which such newspapers are published in sufficient time after  
30 passage of this proposed constitutional amendment.

1       (b) Upon the second passage by the General Assembly of this  
2 proposed constitutional amendment, the Secretary of the  
3 Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to comply with the  
4 advertising requirements of section 1 of Article XI of the  
5 Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the required  
6 advertisements to two newspapers in every county in which such  
7 newspapers are published in sufficient time after passage of  
8 this proposed constitutional amendment. The Secretary of the  
9 Commonwealth shall submit this proposed constitutional amendment  
10 to the qualified electors of this Commonwealth at the first  
11 primary, general or municipal election which meets the  
12 requirements of and is in conformance with section 1 of Article  
13 XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and which occurs at least  
14 three months after the proposed constitutional amendment is  
15 passed by the General Assembly.