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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 1376 Session of  
2017

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INTRODUCED BY BARBIN, BARRAR, SAINATO, READSHAW, MURT,  
CALTAGIRONE, DRISCOLL, KINSEY, GOODMAN AND McNEILL,  
MAY 11, 2017

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY  
PREPAREDNESS, MAY 11, 2017

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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(c) of Article VIII be amended to read:

9 § 2. Exemptions and special provisions.

10 \* \* \*

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] Department of Veterans Affairs or its  
5 successor to be a [total or 100%] permanent disability of 80% or  
6 greater, and if the State Veterans' Commission determines that  
7 such persons are in need of the tax exemptions granted herein.  
8 This exemption shall be extended to the unmarried surviving  
9 spouse upon the death of an eligible veteran provided that the  
10 State Veterans' Commission determines that such person is in  
11 need of the exemption.

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

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

1 requirements of and is in conformance with section 1 of Article  
2 XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and which occurs at least  
3 three months after the proposed constitutional amendment is  
4 passed by the General Assembly.