

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 815 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY LEWIS, JONES, MURT, BOROWICZ, BERNSTINE, A. DAVIS,
NEILSON, KAUFER, IRVIN, KEEFER, SIMMONS, MACKENZIE, SOLOMON,
COOK AND THOMAS, MARCH 14, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, MARCH 14, 2019

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth
2 of Pennsylvania, further providing for terms of members.

3 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
4 hereby resolves as follows:

5 Section 1. The following amendment to the Constitution of
6 Pennsylvania is proposed in accordance with Article XI:

7 That section 3 of Article II be amended to read:

8 § 3. Terms of members.

9 (a) Senators shall be elected for the term of four years and
10 Representatives for the term of two years. Senators shall not be
11 eligible for election to more than three consecutive full terms
12 of office. Representatives shall not be eligible for election to
13 more than six consecutive full terms of office.

14 (b) A Senator who has served the maximum number of
15 consecutive full terms may become a candidate for election to
16 the Senate at an election held not fewer than four years after
17 completion of the Senator's third consecutive full term of

1 office. A Representative who has served the maximum number of
2 consecutive full terms may become a candidate for election to
3 the House of Representatives at an election held not fewer than
4 two years after completion of the Representative's sixth
5 consecutive full term of office.

6 Section 2. Service in the General Assembly, whether the
7 service constitutes a full term of office or a partial term of
8 office, performed prior to the approval of the amendment of
9 section 3 of Article II of the Constitution of Pennsylvania by
10 the electorate shall not be considered in determining the
11 maximum number of consecutive full terms a Senator or
12 Representative may serve or in determining eligibility of a
13 Senator or Representative for election.

14 Section 3. (a) Upon the first passage by the General
15 Assembly of this proposed constitutional amendment, the
16 Secretary of the Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to
17 comply with the advertising requirements of section 1 of Article
18 XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the
19 required advertisements to two newspapers in every county in
20 which such newspapers are published in sufficient time after
21 passage of this proposed constitutional amendment.

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

1 to the qualified electors of this Commonwealth at the first
2 primary, general or municipal election which meets the
3 requirements of and is in conformance with section 1 of Article
4 XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and which occurs at least
5 three months after the proposed constitutional amendment is
6 passed by the General Assembly.