
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 963 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY GREGORY AND ROZZI, MARCH 27, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, MARCH 27, 2019

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth
2 of Pennsylvania, further providing for courts to be open and
3 suits against the Commonwealth.

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 11 of Article I be amended to read:

9 § 11. Courts to be open; suits against the Commonwealth.

10 (a) All courts shall be open; and every man for an injury
11 done him in his lands, goods, person or reputation shall have
12 remedy by due course of law, and right and justice administered
13 without sale, denial or delay. Suits may be brought against the
14 Commonwealth in such manner, in such courts and in such cases as
15 the Legislature may by law direct.

16 (b) An individual for whom a statutory limitations period
17 has already expired shall have a period of two years from the
18 time that this subsection becomes effective to commence an

1 action arising from childhood sexual abuse, in such cases as
2 provided by law at the time that this subsection becomes
3 effective.

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

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