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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 1019 Session of  
2019

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INTRODUCED BY KLUNK, MILLARD, DUNBAR, GROVE AND HERSHEY,  
APRIL 2, 2019

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, APRIL 2, 2019

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A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth  
2 of Pennsylvania, further providing for qualifications of  
3 certain judges.

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 12(b) of Article V be amended to read:

9 § 12. Qualifications of justices, judges and justices of the  
10 peace.

11 \* \* \*

12 (b) Justices of the peace shall be members of the bar of the  
13 Supreme Court or shall complete a course of training and  
14 instruction in the duties of their respective offices and pass  
15 an examination prior to [assuming office] being nominated to  
16 fill vacancies pursuant to section 13(b) of this article or to  
17 filing a nomination petition for their respective offices. Such  
18 courses and examinations shall be as provided by law.

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

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