

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 92

Session of 2019

INTRODUCED BY BARTOLOTTA, VOGEL, STEFANO, SCARNATI, BREWSTER, HUTCHINSON, KILLION, COSTA, K. WARD, J. WARD, DINNIMAN, BLAKE, BOSCOLA, REGAN, WHITE, YUDICHAK, BROWNE, HAYWOOD, A. WILLIAMS AND MENSCH, JANUARY 24, 2019

SENATOR REGAN, VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, AS AMENDED, JUNE 18, 2019

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] RECEIVED A <--  
15 DISCHARGE FROM SERVICE UNDER CONDITIONS OTHER THAN DISHONORABLE,  
16 shall be exempt from the payment of [all] a portion of real

1 property taxes upon the residence occupied by the said citizens  
2 and residents of this Commonwealth imposed by the Commonwealth  
3 of Pennsylvania or any of its political subdivisions if, as a  
4 result of military service, they are blind, paraplegic or double  
5 or quadruple amputees or have a service-connected disability  
6 declared by the United States [Veterans Administration]  
7 Department of Veterans Affairs or its successor to be a [total  
8 or 100%] permanent disability of 50% or greater, and if the  
9 State Veterans' Commission determines that such persons are in  
10 need of the tax exemptions granted herein. The percentage of  
11 exemption from real property taxes shall be in direct proportion  
12 to the percentage of disability. This exemption shall be  
13 extended to the unmarried surviving spouse upon the death of an  
14 eligible veteran provided that the State Veterans' Commission  
15 determines that such person is in need of the exemption.

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

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

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