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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE BILL

No. 882 Session of  
2019

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INTRODUCED BY STEFANO, K. WARD, MARTIN, MASTRIANO, PITTMAN AND  
J. WARD, OCTOBER 25, 2019

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REFERRED TO STATE GOVERNMENT, OCTOBER 25, 2019

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A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth  
2 of Pennsylvania, in the legislature, further providing for  
3 sessions.

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 the provisions of  
8 Article XI:

9 That section 4 of Article II be amended to read:

10 § 4. Sessions.

11 (a) The General Assembly shall be a continuing body during  
12 the term for which its Representatives are elected. It shall  
13 meet at 12 o'clock noon on the first Tuesday of January each  
14 year. Special sessions shall be called by the Governor on  
15 petition of a majority of the members elected to each House or  
16 may be called by the Governor whenever in his opinion the public  
17 interest requires.

18 (b) Unless meeting in special session, the General Assembly

1 may not convene a voting session from a time period beginning on  
2 the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November through  
3 November 30 in any even-numbered year.

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.